

jack

magazine



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SWANSEA CITY v BOLTON WANDERERS
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editorial...

AFTER four weeks away, I'm probably not the only person that is glad to be back at the Liberty this afternoon.

Following another international break and back-to-back away games, it is nice to finish the month with a home game.

But what a month it has been.

It kicked off with that magnificent home win over Stoke and following that disappointment against Norwich, the players produced a superb performance at Wolves last weekend despite only taking a point when it perhaps should have been all three.

But this afternoon we all have a chance to put that right.

And one player that deserves a mention is young Joe Allen. Having been at Swansea since the age of nine, I caught up with the Wales midfielder for our 'Big Interview' with a player that conducts himself impeccably both on and off the field.

Also in this week's edition we have a catch up with the club's Under-18s and youth teams in what has been a busy period, the spotlight is on flying winger Nathan Dyer and there is a feature on the newest recruit to the Swans backroom team.

The atmosphere here against Stoke in our home last game was one of the best I have seen so get behind the players like you do home and away and believe me, it makes a massive difference.

Enjoy the game,
Ben
Editor, Jack Magazine

Polite Warning /The British courts have now imposed a standard minimum three-year ban from all football grounds for football related arrests – inside or outside the ground. CCTV is currently in operation inside and outside the stadium, while police are also using hand-held video cameras. Offences include: Obscene or racist chanting or gesturing; consuming alcohol in seated areas, continual standing in seated areas; aggressive behaviour; going on to the pitch; throwing of items; drunk and disorderly or under the influence of drugs. Please note there is also a no-smoking policy within the stadium. If broken, you could be ejected. Sales of goods inside and outside the stadium is prohibited unless via official registered sellers. The club badge is a registered trademark and unauthorised use of it will not be permitted. High quality cameras are not permitted inside the stadium.

Tighter control on concessions will be implemented this coming season, random spot checks will be carried out and tickets may be withdrawn should fraud be proven.

who's who

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“ we demonstrated a wonderful appetite for the game, showed tremendous courage to play “our way” and this was reflective in the performance for the majority of the game ”

brendan

GOOD AFTERNOON and a very warm welcome back to the Liberty for our loyal Jack Army. It seems a long time since our last outing here against Stoke and we hope that our performance and result can be the same in what turned out to be a fantastic day for players and supporters alike.

Since that game we have been "on the road" and put in two performances of differing standards. Norwich was a game where we didn't get going and we found ourselves down before ever getting started.

As always there were positives in the game, but for our standard we were below par and it was the case of reflecting on those areas of the game to improve, highlighting the qualities we showed on the day, and then working very hard on the training ground to develop and enhance our performance level as a team.

I felt that against Wolves we demonstrated a wonderful appetite for the game, showed tremendous courage to play "our way" and this was reflective in the performance for the majority of the game.

The two goals we scored produced outstanding moments of quality that went unmentioned because of the end scoreline. Mark Gower produced a pass to Danny Graham that if Juan Mata or David Silva had produced them then it would have been shown for the next week.

Instead the goal was more down to Roger Johnson getting his body shape wrong!

Our second goal was a great team goal. We showed all four phases of our attacking play from building the ball from behind; our preparation through midfield; our ability to find the space at the right moment; the pass from Danny Graham and the run and execution from Joe Allen.

It capped a great team goal and performance of which continued through until the final 10 minutes where we let slip our lead and finished the game with an undeserving point instead of three.

Our feeling, of course, like everyone connected to the Jack Army was of bitter disappointment.

This is a league where every point is critical, however what is most important is our ability to learn and improve, and the loss of two points last Saturday could help us gain six or seven points in the future from similar positions.

The scoreline didn't give me great satisfaction, but my overriding thoughts take me to a point on the road, a team performance of high quality for nearly the whole game and a support that was brilliant and gave us great motivation for our future.

Talking of support, I felt a sadness for Mick McCarthy and his team last week and I have never known anything like that in my short time as a manager. What I do know is very simple; when you back your team and manager it gives everyone a positive feeling and, no matter what you do in life, that sense of value and worth gives you that extra per cent to hopefully make the difference between success and failure.

Success is something that isn't a gift, it's not handed

to you, it's a decision! We choose as a team to play our hearts out for you, and you decide to give us your backing through thick and thin which has been instrumental in our success over the last 15 months - and we are going to need that support as much as ever today.

I welcome Bolton today as our visitors and particular their manager Owen Coyle who has done an excellent job since going to the Reebok. I also want to say a special welcome to Darren Pratley who in his time here at Swansea gave his all for the shirt. Darren played a very important role for us and was a major part of our iconic season last term. I hope he has the success he deserves at Bolton - with the exception of the games against the Swans!

Today gives us all the opportunity to decide our destiny in this wonderful league. The collective responsibility for our performance is with us all here in this great stadium. So be loud and be very proud as once again this team is ready to give you everything. Enjoy the ride!

"Per Ardua ad Astra"

Rein van

PS: Today's fixture is dedicated to one of the game's most established campaigns, Kick It Out's One Game, One Community weeks of action. Once again, the club is proud to be supporting the initiative and I am sure you will join me in acknowledging the great strides made in eradicating discrimination in all its forms, and at all levels of the game in recent years.

Many football fans, together with people who work within the game, will recognise the Kick It Out logo and its heightened presence every October.

However, the campaign works all year around on a range of initiatives aimed at fostering better relations between clubs and communities, encouraging the engagement with, and inclusion of under-represented groups and individuals, as well as celebrating the diversity that makes football in this country so special.

Today we will be registering a unified message of support with players donning the One Game, One Community t-shirts ahead of kick off as well as staff throughout the club wearing pin badges. And, over the coming weeks, schools, libraries and community and grass roots football clubs up and down the country will be following suit.

So let's make time today to acknowledge our collective role in making the game a more tolerant and friendly environment and ensure we maintain this for the next generation of supporters coming through.

Let us unite to promote the importance of football for all under the banner One Game, One Community.





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monks

HELLO TO EVERYONE and welcome back to the Liberty Stadium.

Today we face a Bolton Wanderers side that will provide us with another difficult test as they look for a good result.

We also welcome back Darren Pratley, who played a massive role in our rise through the leagues in recent seasons.

Who can forget that amazing goal from the halfway line against Nottingham Forest in the play-off semi-final?

It even had the manager running up the touchline in celebration. I was going to mention again that he out-paced Mark Gower, but I promised him I wouldn't, as he still has nightmares over it!

It will be good to see Prats today as he has great respect throughout our squad and I'm sure you, the fans, will give him a massive Jack Army welcome as he always gave 100 per cent for this club.

It was also nice to catch up with our former goalkeeper Dorus de Vries at Wolves last week who, like Prats, made a major contribution to our successful rise through the divisions over the years.

Although Dorus had to be content with a place on the bench, I'm sure he is going to push Wayne Hennessey all the way for the number one shirt as the Premier League season progresses.

Dorus is a quality goalkeeper, but we have been fortunate to find a superb replacement in Michel Vorm who has been in outstanding form since he arrived in the summer and has yet to concede a goal at home this season. It's been a bit tougher on our travels though and after consecutive trips to Norwich and Wolves, it's nice to get back in front of the Jack Army today at the Liberty.

Looking back on those two away trips, the first of which was against Norwich, it was a disappointing result at Carrow Road and the

only time this season where we hadn't performed well as a team.

But, as always, we produced a good reaction in last weekend's game at Wolves, where our performance levels were back to where they usually are.

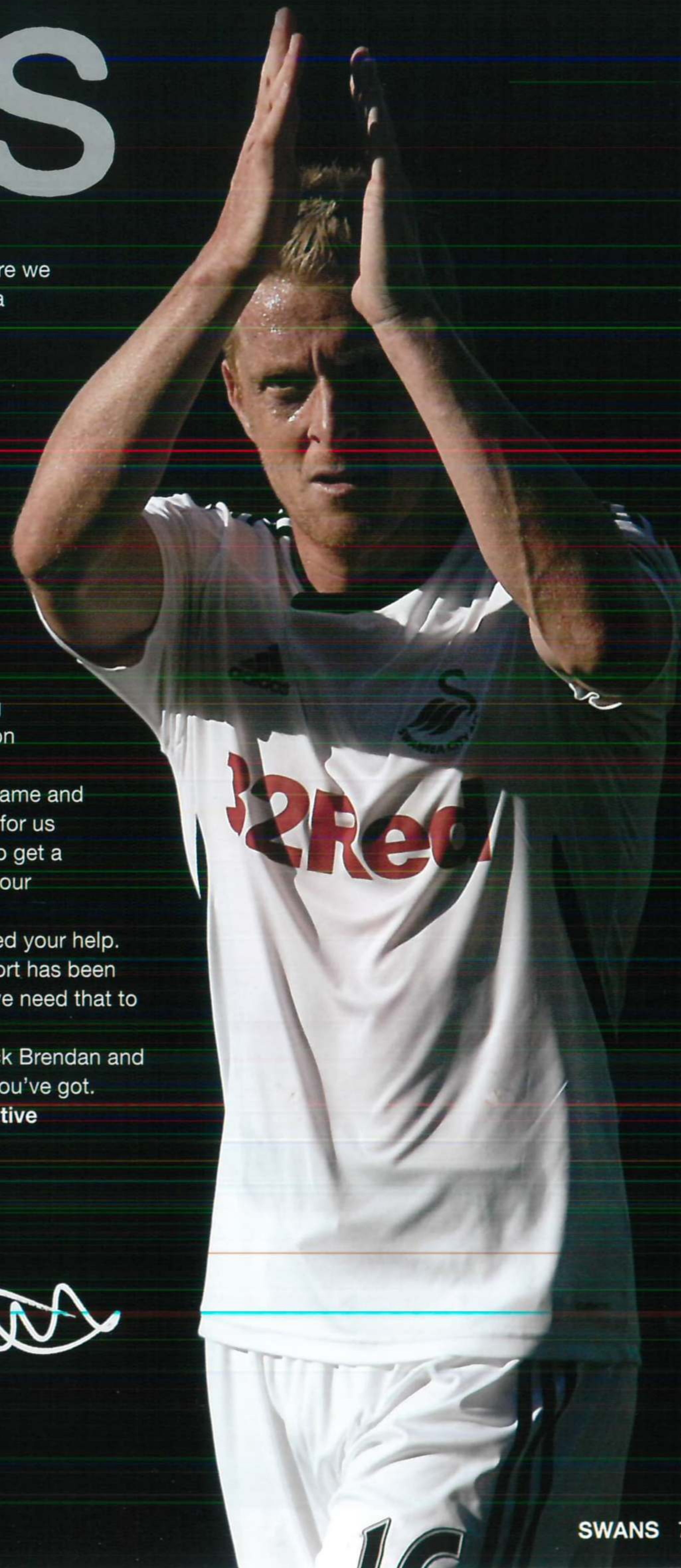
Although we had a frustrating end to the game, it was another step forward and a game with many positives. It was a learning process that we will take on board.

Anyway, back to today's game and it's another important one for us where we will be looking to get a positive result to maintain our unbeaten home record.

But, as always, we will need your help. Your vocal and loyal support has been fantastic all season, and we need that to continue this afternoon.

So I ask you to please back Brendan and the boys with everything you've got.

**Be Loud, Proud and Positive
Monks**





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huw jenkins

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to everyone for today's Premier League fixture against Bolton Wanderers.

Today's clash is once again a big game to win for both teams and will be without doubt another hard fought and close encounter.

Bolton have been in the top flight now for a number of years and are firmly established as a strong and competitive Premier League team.

As the Premier League settles down after the usual frantic start, we can be quite pleased at our early season contribution. Now we can hopefully build on that start to grow into the league with renewed confidence, because I think we have already proved that we are more than a match for the majority of teams at this level.

Today's opponents have Darren Pratley in their squad line-up so I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his personal contribution during his time at Swansea.

I remember watching Darren play on loan at Brentford and always thought what a great addition he would be to our squad.

The following summer myself and Kenny Jackett agreed a deal with Fulham to sign him and he gave Swansea a good five years commitment and service.

I was personally sad he left us, but I wish him every success in his career in the years ahead.

I would also like to welcome all the Directors, staff, players and supporters from Bolton who have travelled to our Liberty Stadium.

Although results haven't gone as Bolton would have planned early season, I have no doubt that today's game will be one of the hardest of the campaign. I know that once Bolton reach the standards they usual set themselves each year, they will start to put

results together and start climbing the Premier League.

I hope you all enjoy your visit to south west Wales and I wish you every success in the months ahead.

Back to ourselves, and I must comment on our performance at Wolves last week. For 80 minutes we were fantastic and played some great football and, with a little luck, we would have put the game beyond doubt well before the last 10 minutes or so.

However, we all know how things turned out. But we must move forward and carry our performance into today's game and with that little bit of luck this time around we can give a good account of ourselves.

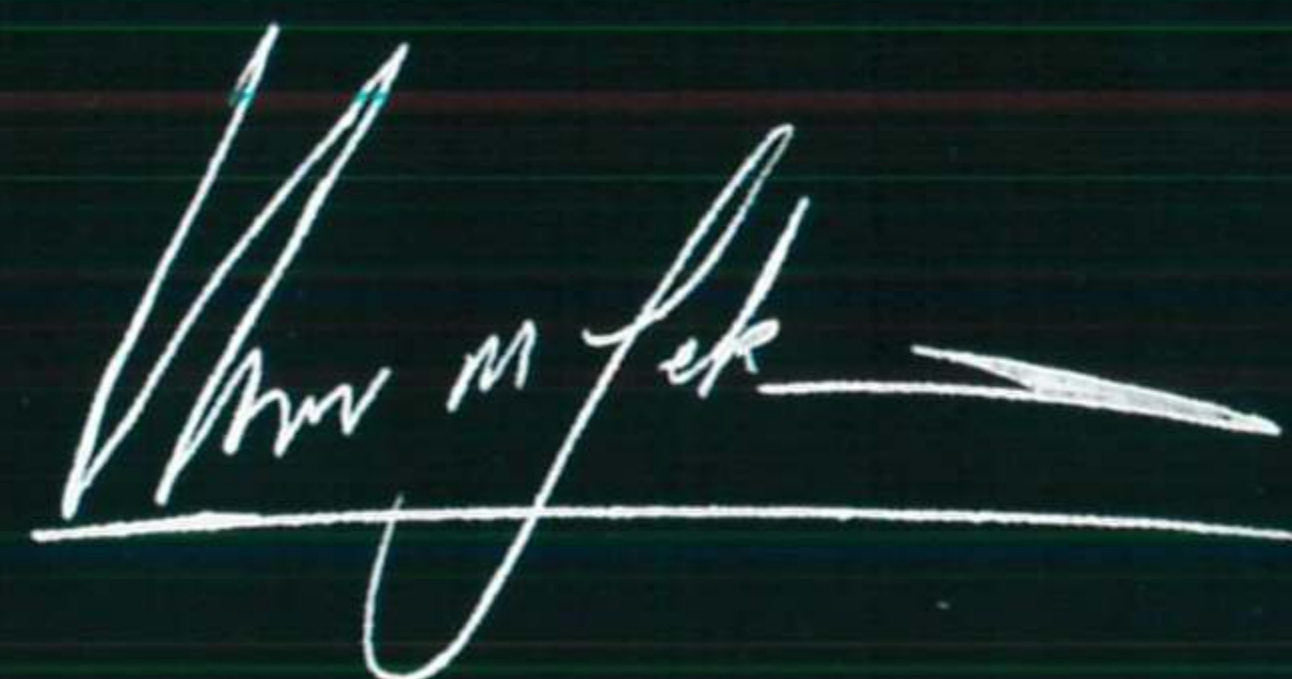
Our overall game is about our ability to control the game from start to finish. But in reality at this level it will not always be possible to control a game for the full 90 minutes. During some periods of most games we need to remain strong, compact and defend as a team from the front.

Each home game has been like a cup final, so let's keep the noise level up and, most importantly, all remain firmly behind Brendan and the players from start to finish, however the game flows.

This is the Premier League and every game we play will be a battle. We have no right to win any game, so we must first and foremost earn that right.

Thanks for all your support as always at home and away where you are always the loudest and proudest. Please keep it up.

All the best





match report... swansea 2-0 stoke Sunday 2 October 2011

team sheet

SWANS: Vorm, Williams, Monk, Taylor, Rangel, Routledge (Moore 66), Allen, Gower, Dyer, Sinclair, Graham (Lita 90)

STOKE: Begovic, Whelan, Wilson (Huth 33), Wilkinson, Shawcross, Woodgate, Pennant (Shotton 80), Whitehead, Walters, Delap (Jerome 55), Crouch

Referee: Mike Jones **Attendance:** 19,523

match stats

Shots: Swans 11 Stoke 13

Shots on target: Swans 3 Stoke 3

Corners: Swans 6 Stoke 5

Possession: Swans 58% Stoke 42%

Passes/Completion rate: Swans 378 (83%) Stoke 248 (67%)

Fouls: Swans 16 Stoke 19

Total distance covered: Swans 106952m
Stoke 111572m

newsflash

Brendan Rodgers made two changes to the side that lost at Chelsea, as Wayne Routledge and Danny Graham came in for Leon Britton and Leroy Lita.

The visitors included £10million striker Peter Crouch in their starting line-up, and former Swans striker Mamady Sidibe was on the bench.

key moments

9 minutes, GOAL: Swans make the perfect start when Wayne Routledge is tripped by Wilkinson in the box and Sinclair gives Begovic no chance from the spot

14 minutes: The home side nearly double their lead when Danny Graham is inches away from connecting with Routledge's superb cross from the left

21 minutes: The visitors nearly score a spectacular equaliser when Jonathan Walters hits a dipping volley from all of 30 yards that Vorm tips onto the crossbar

38 minutes: A well worked corner from the Swans sees Angel Rangel get up to head at goal but he can't keep his effort down

43 minutes: As Stoke try and force their way back into the game, Huth's cross finds Rory Delap but he fires high over the bar

48 minutes: Mark Gower's corner is met by Danny Graham but he can't keep his

10 **SWANS**





header down

60 minutes: The visitors come so close to an equaliser as Whelan's free kick strikes the base of the post with Vorm well beaten

67 minutes: Cameron Jerome links up well with Crouch but his left footed strike goes high over the bar

69 minutes: The Swans are a whisker away from finding that vital second goal as Sinclair cuts in from the left to strike at goal but Begovic does superbly to tip the ball round the post

79 minutes: Dyer somehow manages to reach Williams' diagonal pass and hook a cross over and Begovic does well to palm the ball away from the path of Graham

86 minutes, GOAL: The moment that all Swans fans had been waiting for as Danny Graham races clear of the Stoke defence to coolly slot home his first goal for the club

90 minutes: The Swans have a lucky escape in stoppage time when Crouch gets up to head at goal and as a scramble ensues, Vorm grabs the ball on the line

man of the match

Joe Allen: the midfielder's stock continues to rise after yet another assured performance as he stood up to Stoke's physical threat

the final word

Brendan Rodgers: "It was a mammoth effort," he said. "Stoke are a difficult team to play against but our performance was excellent. To keep the clean sheet we had to close the gaps and be well organised and I think we put down a marker today as we showed we have steel in the side."

Tony Pulis: "They've got some very good players," he said. "They move the ball around well and make it difficult for teams."

"They have to stick to their principles and not change and keep believing because it's a very tough and unforgiving league."



joe, best player on the pitch...

phil cadden of westgate sports agency takes a sideways view of the sporting world...



'WOWZERS' AS Manchester City's goalkeeper Joe Hart put it.

We're already two-and-a-half months into the Premier League season and it is shaping up to be the most competitive campaign yet for prizes at the top, bottom and European qualification.

Back on the opening weekend, I'm sure when Swansea's travelling army of supporters left the Etihad Stadium following a four-goal second half blitz, the realisation of what lay ahead must have looked that little bit more daunting.

But, following City's incredible 6-1 demolition of derby rivals United last weekend (it's the game which has been the talk of workplaces across the UK, Europe and, no doubt the world this week), that 4-0 scoreline does not seem too bad. Some might say even par for the course.

Since then, Roberto Mancini's rampant side have scored that number of goals or more in four of their other eight league matches to date with only Fulham managing to deny the big-spenders maximum points.

So I'm pretty confident that Swansea, Tottenham Hotspur, Blackburn Rovers and Aston Villa won't be the lasting teams to receive hidings as the season wears on.

Conversely, it will be interesting to see what reaction comes from the Manchester United camp in the coming weeks, particularly as they just happen to be the next team to visit the Liberty Stadium on November 19.

But, enough of comments about the top end of the league table as the battle at the bottom is just as fierce as Swansea welcome today's opponents Bolton Wanderers to south Wales.

Owen Coyle's men may be sat in the relegation zone at present, but don't expect that to continue with only seven points covering 13 teams.

One positive result can propel you seven or eight places up the league or alternatively, head in the other direction.

That's how tight it is at the moment.

But the pleasing aspect from Swansea's point of view – aside from the competitive league position – must be that in the majority of games on this journey they've rose to the challenge and stepped up to the demands of being in the top division. And none more so than in front of the live cameras at Wolverhampton Wanderers last weekend where, for large periods, they produced a

composed performance.

I attended the game at Molineux and it was a crying shame they didn't claim three points not only for the major morale booster it would have provided, but the result would have lifted them up another two places and consequently, gained some extra breathing space in the battle for survival.

But, regardless of the scoreline, the best player on the pitch was Joe Allen.

In fact, the Wales midfielder has been the perfect example of Swansea's adaptation and rise to playing in this division.

The pint-sized midfielder didn't start the season in the starting line-up at City, but has quietly and effectively gone about his business to force his way into favour.

It's not just Swansea manager Brendan Rodgers who has been impressed by his noticeable development.

Allen was outstanding when handed a chance by Gary Speed on international duty against Switzerland and Bulgaria earlier this month and has continued his rich vein of form in the recent away days at Norwich and Wolves.

Technically and tactically sound, Allen, who according to official Premier League statistics is the sixth smallest player, is also developing physically too among the land of the giants.

And I can't not forget to mention his first Premier

League goal of the season in the Black Country which the

21-year-old will hope is not his last this term.

However, it's not just on the field where the club's presence has already been felt.

The Swansea faithful both home and away have added a vibrant and colourful atmosphere together with a vocal support which I know from speaking to the players and management, has made a difference.

And that could prove to be vital as the intensity of the league ramps up over the coming winter months.

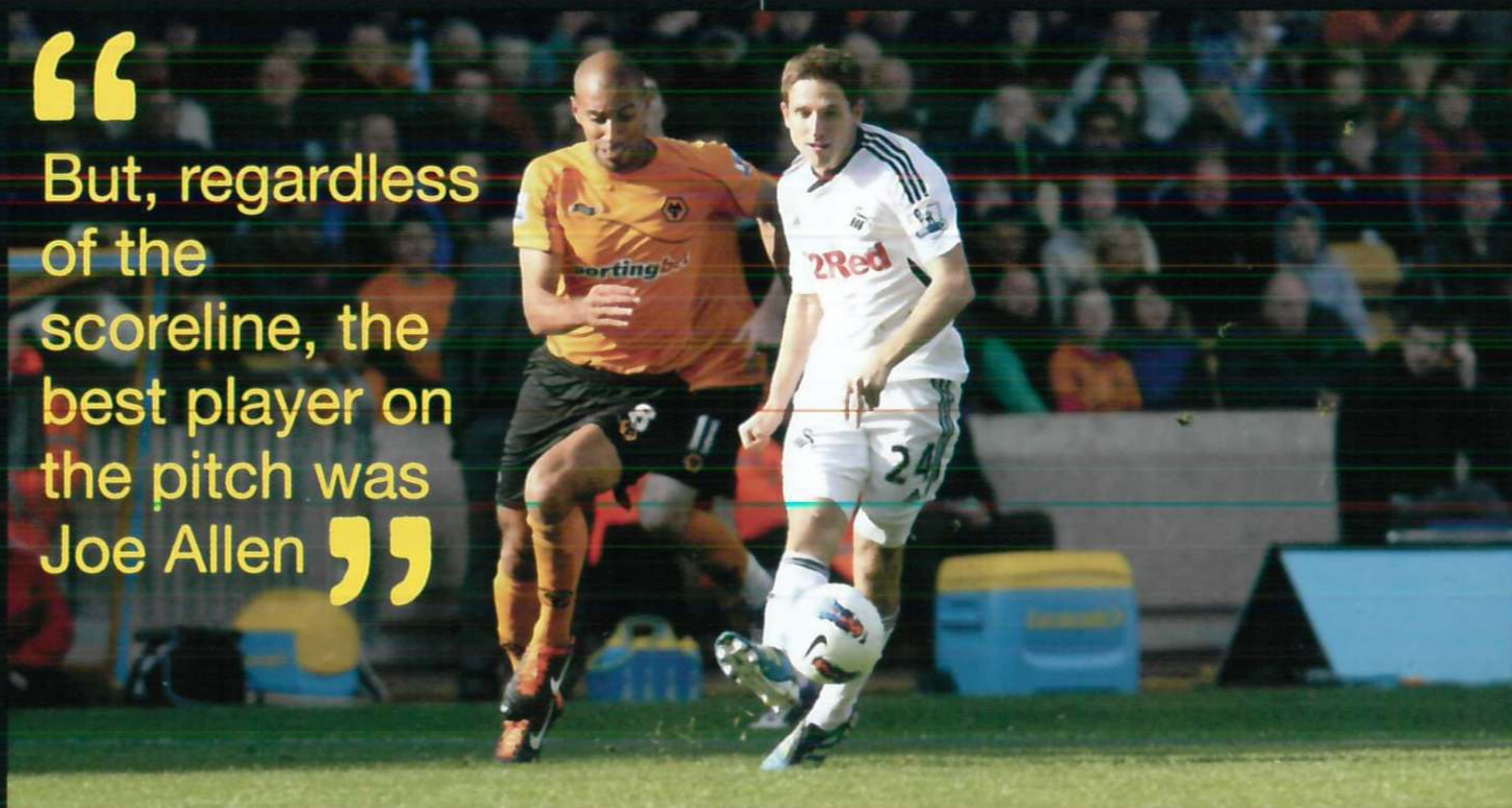
One of the images that will stay with me for a while from the trip to Wolves was the vociferous nature of the abuse towards manager Mick McCarthy for his second half substitutions. To be honest, the boos are still ringing in my ears. Yet even when Kevin Doyle halved the deficit with six minutes remaining, many of those same punters still turned their backs on the team and walked out of the ground.

On that evidence they don't deserve a place in the Premier League. But I suspect today's two sets of supporters believe they do – and will come much closer to displaying the true meaning of the word 'support' this afternoon.

Enjoy the game

Phil

“
But, regardless
of the
scoreline, the
best player on
the pitch was
Joe Allen”



news desk...

Samba Tawe Time



SUPPORTERS WILL be entertained before today's game by members of Samba Tawe.

Formed in Swansea back in 1994, the group will play an evocative and energetic mix of Brazilian, Cuban and African rhythms in front of the ticket office and pitchside before kick-off.

Now with over 60 members, Samba Tawe's amazing energy and visual impact of original percussion scores and exciting dance moves combine to create a riot of colour, movement and infectious rhythms that never go unnoticed, come rain or shine!

For more information on Samba Tawe, including how to book them for an event or to join the bateria or dancers, visit www.sambatawe.org.uk



SWANS TRIO Andrea Orlandi, Angel Rangel and Tom Butler helped Neath Port Talbot College (NPTC) kick off its 80th birthday celebrations at its brand new £6m state of the art sport facility at Llandarcy. They visited the two-storey facility which includes a multi-functional national standard hard court sports hall and climbing wall, classrooms and changing facilities, indoor bounding track, outside multi-use games area and an IRB standard 3G artificial outdoor pitch. The college is also looking to the future with several projects in the pipeline such as a residential centre to provide blind and partially sighted people in Wales with education and specialist employment transition. Principal of the College, Mark Dacey, said: "The Llandarcy Academy of Sport and Learning provides the best quality facilities in Wales by far. NPTC has an enviable reputation in Sport all over the world."

China Swans



Hi, I thought you may be interested in one of Swansea City's biggest supporters from China.

I met up with Kelvin Ip on one of my visits to Dongguan in China. He is a Swansea City fanatic who flew in last season to join me to watch the Swans great win against Nottingham Forest at the Liberty. Although a keen football player for a Hong Kong team, he had never been to a European game before and has since followed the Swans on TV and in the media.

Kelvin is the General Manager of a fashion shoe company in China called Irregular Choice and is photographed with me at the company office in Dongguan.

I have been a supporter for 60 years and hold a season ticket.

We are hoping to be able to get a ticket for him to return to the Liberty when he visits the UK later this year and he would be ecstatic if you could publish the attached picture and give him a mention on your web site or programme.

Many thanks
Malcolm Williams

date for SKY SPORTS your diary...

Swansea City's home match with Arsenal in January has been pushed back a day for broadcasting purposes.

The fixture with the Gunners at the Liberty has been selected by Sky Sports as part of their live coverage for that weekend.

It means the Swans will now take on Arsene Wenger's side a day later than scheduled, with the game pencilled in for **Sunday, January 15** with kick-off at 4pm.



Together we can make something you will **smile** about!

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match report... norwich 3-1 swansea Saturday 15 October 2011



team sheet

NORWICH: Ruddy, Naughton, Martin, Barnett, Tierney, Johnson, Fox, Pilkington, Bennett, Hoolahan (Crofts 79), Morison (Holt 67)

SWANS: Vorm, Rangel, Williams, Monk, Taylor (Richards 74), Britton, Allen, Dyer (Lita 69), Sinclair, Routledge (Dobbie 60), Graham

Attendance: 26,567 **Referee:** Mr J Moss

match stats

Possession: Norwich 41% Swans 59%

Passes made/Completion rate:

Norwich 321 (85%) Swans 547 (91%)

Shots: Norwich 14 Swans 12

Shots on target: Norwich 6 Swans 2

Shots off target: Norwich 8 Swans 10

Corners: Norwich 4 Swans 4

Fouls: Norwich 5 Swans 5

Total distance covered:

Norwich 104384 metres Swans 107633 metres

newsflash

Brendan Rodgers made one change to the side that beat Stoke in their last outing, as Leon Britton recovered from a back problem to line up in midfield. As a result, Mark Gower dropped to the bench and was joined by new signing Vangelis Moras. The home side were unchanged from the team that were beaten by Manchester United prior to the international break, the only change coming on the subs bench where Aaron Wilbraham replaced fellow striker Chris Martin.

key moments

1 minute, GOAL: The home side make a dream start by taking the lead inside 60 seconds as Elliott Bennett's hanging cross is noddled back across goal by Morison and Anthony Pilkington reacts quickest to lash the ball past Vorm

10 minutes, GOAL: Norwich double their advantage when David Fox curls a delightful free kick into the box and Russell Martin jumps highest to plant a firm header past the helpless Vorm

12 minutes, GOAL: The Swans pull a goal back when Sinclair races into the box and cuts the ball back for Danny Graham who coolly slots the ball past Ruddy into the bottom corner





26 minutes: As the visitors look to have settled into the game following a frantic opening, Angel Rangel fires a shot that goes just over the bar

30 minutes: Morison feeds Pilkington on the left hand edge of the box and as the winger ghosts past Rangel, his shot can only find the side netting

32 minutes: Morison takes on Monk inside the box but his left footed effort is well saved by Michel Vorm

43 minutes: The Swans have an appeal for a penalty turned down as Nathan Dyer tumbles over a challenge from Martin

56 minutes: Scott Sinclair drags a shot well wide as the Swans look to find a way back into the game

63 minutes, GOAL: The hosts restore their two-goal advantage when, after the Swans defence fail to deal with a corner, Pilkington reacts quickest to turn the ball in for his second of the game

69 minutes: Vorm has to be at his best to keep out a fierce dive from Bradley Johnson from the edge of the box

70 minutes: The Dutchman has to be at his best again to keep out a long range effort from substitute Grant Holt

78 minutes: Swansea create a great chance to get back into the game when Graham does well inside the box and as he pulls it back for Dobbie, his effort is well blocked and the follow up effort is saved by Ruddy

man of the match

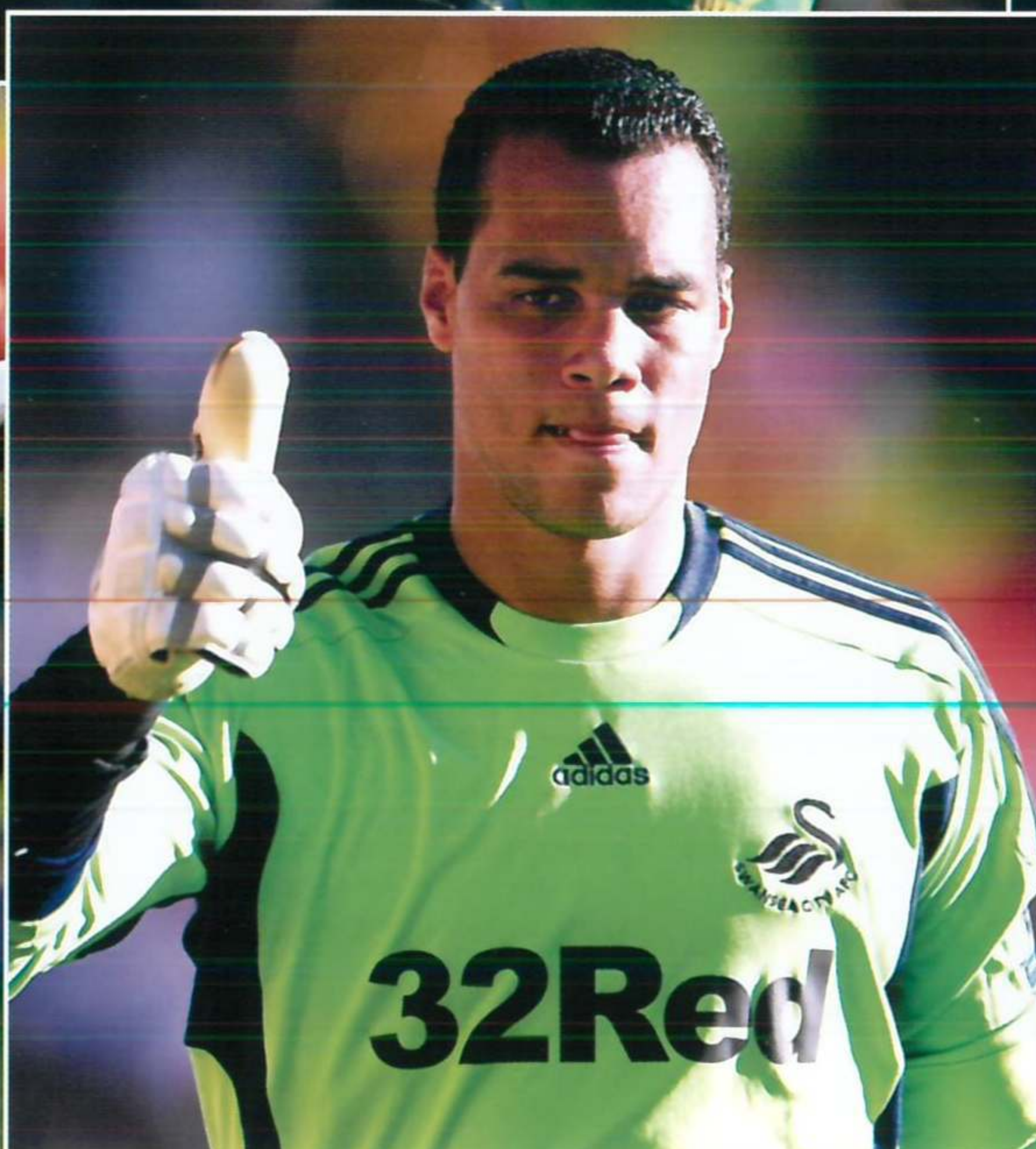
Danny Graham (the striker worked tirelessly up front on his own, working the channels well and took his goal well when called upon)

the final word

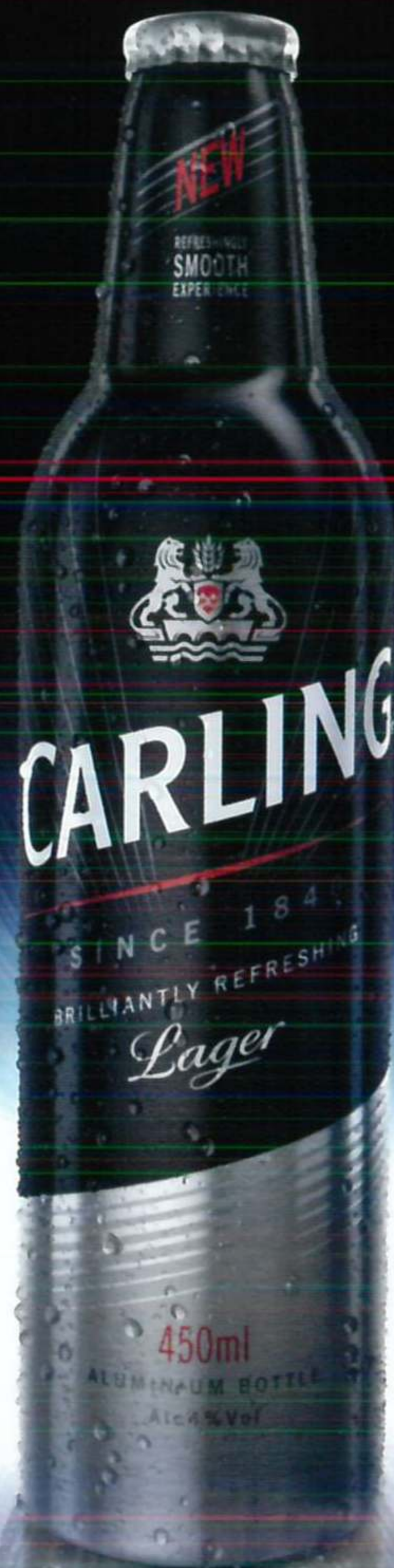
Paul Lambert: "I thought we were excellent from start to finish. Swansea had a good spell after they scored where they came on strong, but apart from that period I thought we were excellent. "We've had three fantastic games against them since I've been here, and today was no different."

Brendan Rodgers: "It was a case of us starting the game after we had gone 2-0 down. Offensively we looked bright and clever, but it was one of those games where the basics of our defending went missing.

"Normally, our defensive organisation is good, but as a team we'll be disappointed."



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prats deserves a warm welcome!



DARREN Pratley returns to the Liberty Stadium today for the first time since triggering the photograph of Swansea City's last season.

Brendan Rodgers's rapid, riotous touchline burst, prompted by Pratley's goal against Nottingham Forest, may just be the image everyone remembers from Swansea's Championship promotion campaign.

And it was not even the play-off final.

Rodgers was reserved for Reading, managing to keep his emotions in check out of respect for the opposition despite the fact that Swansea had just chalked up perhaps the biggest result in the club's 99-year history.

Eventually there were some celebrations at Wembley and, if there is a picture to rival the Pratley goal charge, then it is the one of Rodgers being catapulted towards the arch by a circle of his players.

But for this observer at least, the snap of the season has to be the one capturing Rodgers's gallop in front of the West Stand after Pratley's fabulous goal had ensured Swansea would be heading to Wembley in the first place.

Rodgers, like those in the stands, had been dragged through the emotional mill during two captivating semi-final games against Forest.

But when Pratley took advantage of Forest keeper Lee Camp's decision to come forward for a late corner by scoring from 50 yards, the pressure tap was released.

Rodgers could celebrate

alongside all of Swansea. Pratley came on as a substitute in the play-off final, but the Forest goal was his last major contribution in Swansea colours. It was a fabulous way to go out for a player who had given the club fine service across five progressive seasons. Pratley finished on an almighty high after a stint in Wales which featured more joy than disappointment.

A solid professional, he was brought to Wales by Kenny Jackett in the summer of 2006 having just played against Swansea for Brentford in the League One play-off semi-finals. Jackett had been a long-time admirer, and persuaded Huw

Jenkins to pay £100,000 for the promising midfielder. It proved to be money well spent, for Pratley would make almost 200 appearances for Swansea over the next five seasons. Despite being a youngster, Pratley was very quickly made Swansea captain when Garry Monk suffered a cruciate ligament injury – a sign of Jackett's great faith. Pratley was a regular under the man who signed him, but nothing changed when Roberto Martinez took the reins or when Paulo Sousa was in the dugout. And, while he may have left him out towards the back-end of last season, Rodgers was another big admirer who was deeply disappointed when Pratley opted

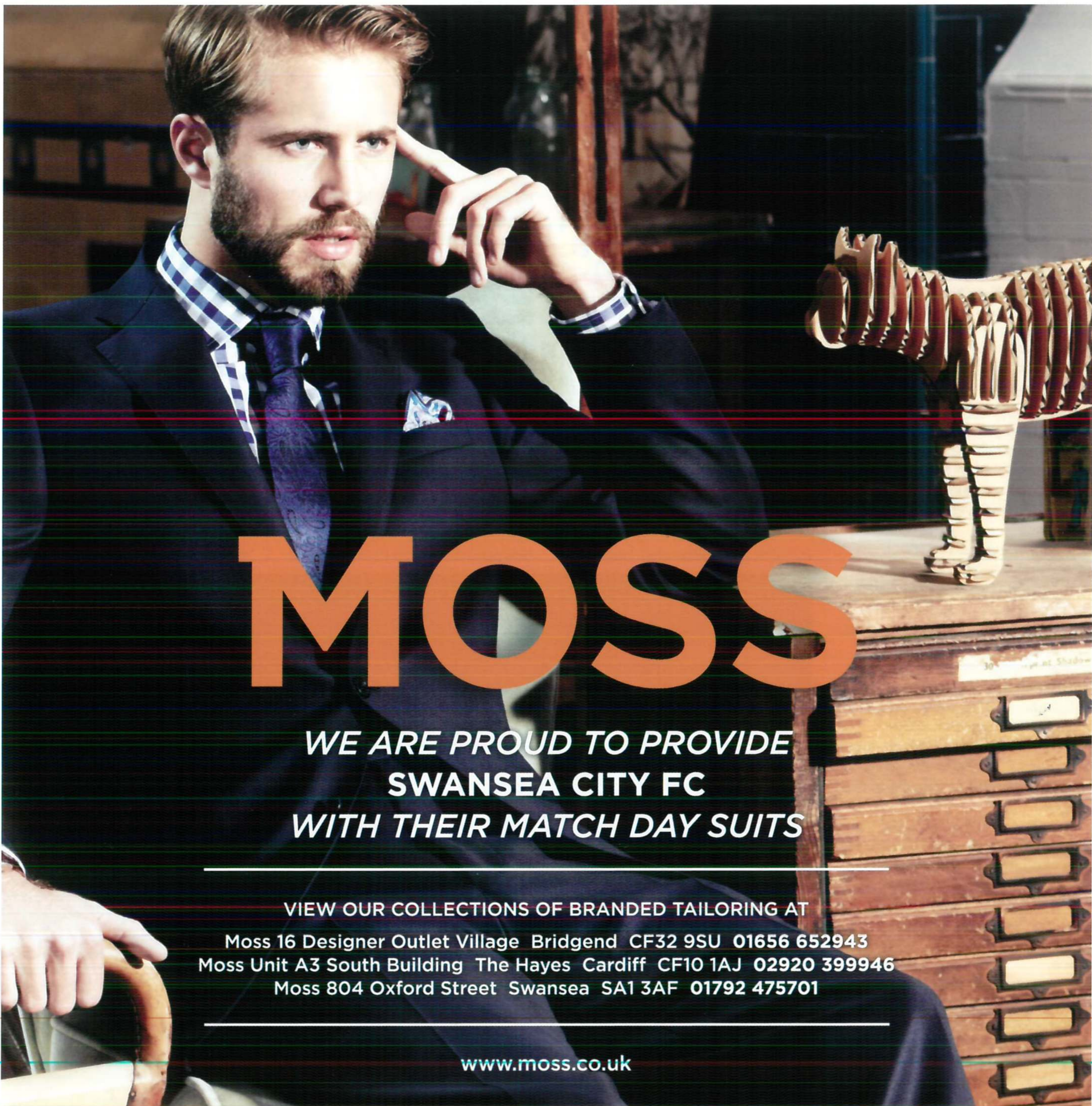
to sign for Bolton Wanderers. "When Darren scored that goal against Forest, we both ran in opposite directions," Rodgers recalled with a smile this week.

"We went in opposite directions that night, and the same thing happened at the end of the season."

Today their paths cross again and, while fans never like to see players they admire move on, Pratley deserves a warm welcome.



Prats says catch me if you can but was Brendan quicker?



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no time to be lamenting lost points, there are plenty more to play for



IT WAS A WEEKEND of the unexpected last weekend, wasn't it? Who'd have thought with 83 minutes gone that we'd only have come away with a point on Saturday? We played beautiful football at Molineux. Even a good friend of mine who rarely praises anything we do, was impressed enough with our performance to text me and tell me what a great job Brendan is doing with our team. My friend is a Cardiff City fan. His veins are as blue as mine are black – metaphorically speaking. He's never extolled the virtues of our success before, not even when we got promoted, so when I got his text on Saturday, I bristled with pride. I even suggested I might have to print it off and get it framed! I was grinning like a Cheshire cat. Half way through the second half and we were on our way to victory – our first three away points of the season. Sweet. But of course it didn't happen like that. My euphoric demeanour changed as the first Wolves goal went in. Needless to say, when they got the equaliser, I was suddenly experiencing a whole different set of emotions. Fair play to my Bluebird friend, he made some attempts to console me by continuing to extol the virtues of 80 odd minutes of exceptionally good football. But, it meant nothing. I was so disappointed.

Like most fans, I'd have been happy with a point before the game; pleased to get our first away points in the Premiership, an indication that we were more than holding our own in the best league in the world.

So why, at 2.25pm was I feeling so dejected, when I knew at 12.45pm I'd have been pleased with the result we got? It's simple really. My bitter disappointment was shared by most Swans fans. As I read other fans' Twitter comments and watched the interviews after the game, I realised just how high our expectations are. We're nine games into our first top flight campaign since 1983 – and watching a win against Wolves slip through our fingers rendered my weekend ruined!

The highlights on Match of the Day didn't help. It was a game we should have won – even the expert pundits praised us for 80 outstanding minutes – but there was little consolation for me in their admiration of our performance. In fact, I don't think I smiled again until after 3pm on Sunday afternoon when the final whistle went in the Manchester derby. I'm not anti United; I don't have any allegiances to either Manchester side, but the result lifted my spirits simply because it highlighted that absolutely nothing is certain in this league. The side which beat us 4-0 in the opening game of the season put SIX past the champions. Talk about putting the previous day's result into perspective! There are 87 more points to play for – yes only getting one against Wolves was a disappointment – but even the mighty Man United would have settled for that on Sunday.

Julie Kissick is life-long Swans fan and works as a senior lecturer in media, communications and journalism at University of Glamorgan.





COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE MATCH BY MATCH

	MANCHESTER UNITED	ASTON VILLA	FULHAM	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	ARSENAL	CHELSEA	NORWICH	MANCHESTER CITY	EVERTON	NEWCASTLE	BLACKBURN	WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS	LIVERPOOL
MORFA LOUNGE SPONSORED BY NATHANIEL CARS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
EXECUTIVE BOX	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MATCH SPONSOR	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MATCH BALL SPONSOR	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MASCOT PACKAGE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
PROGRAMME SPONSOR *	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
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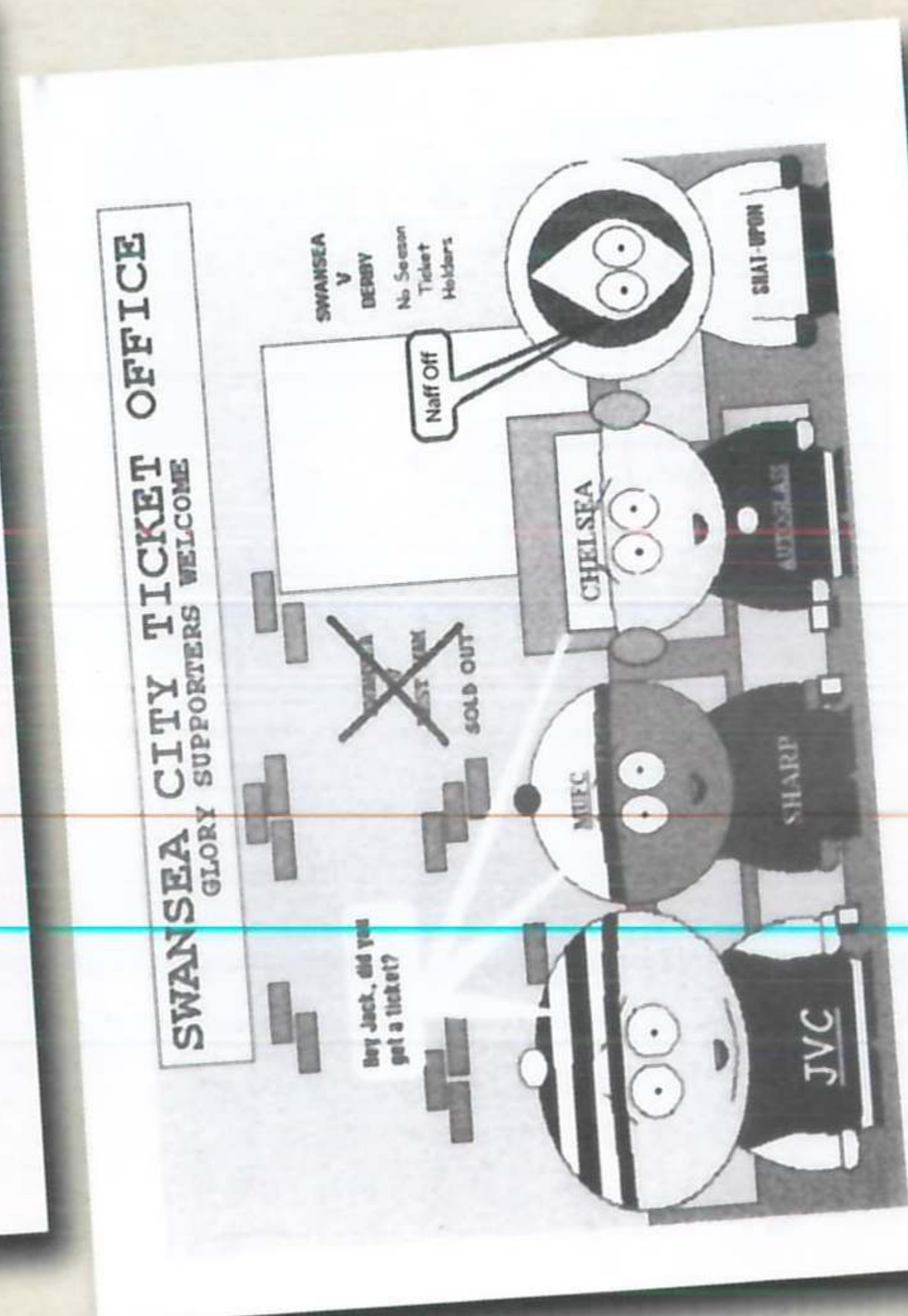
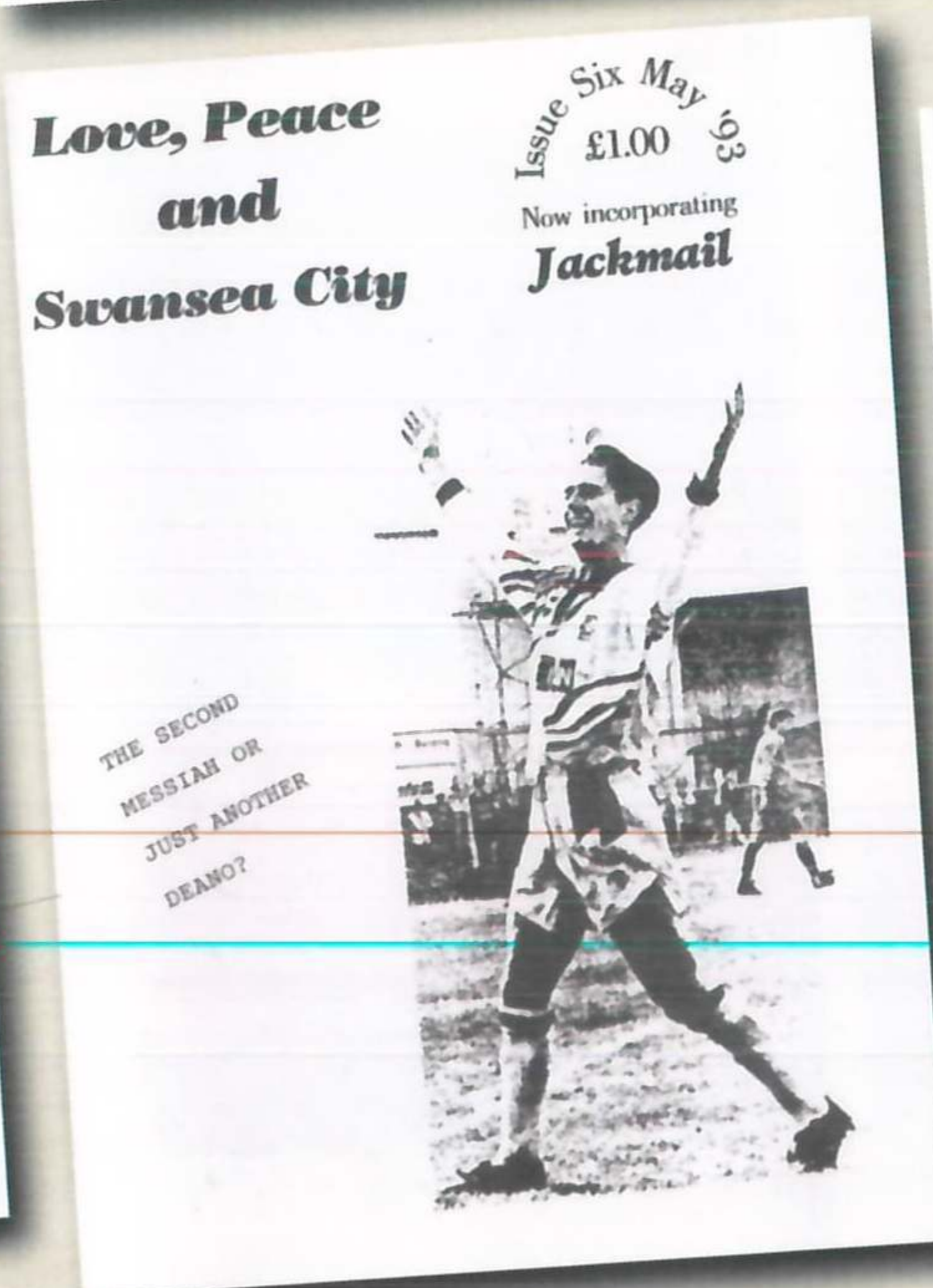
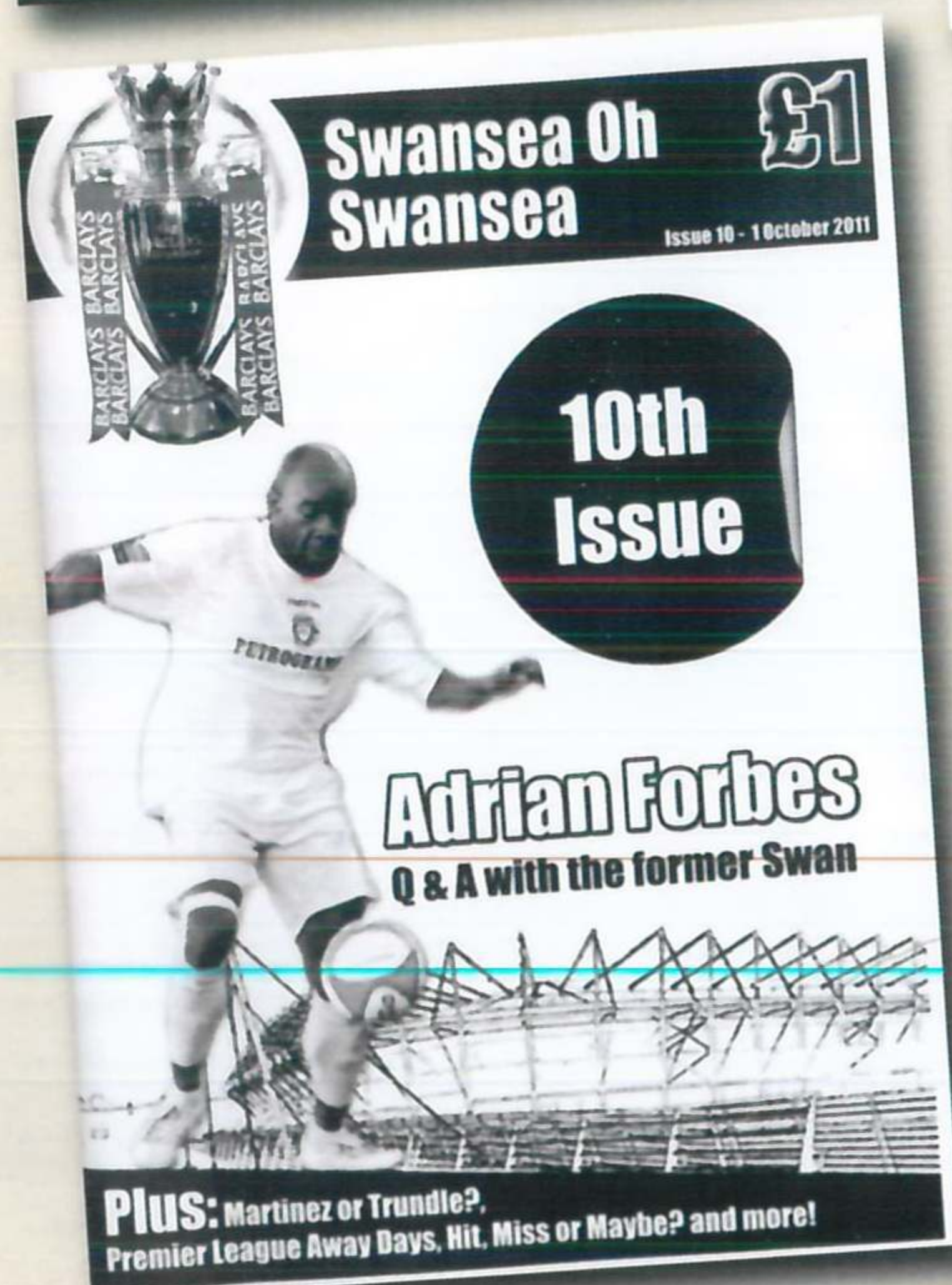
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a little piece of history

swansea town and city

Years before Twitter, blogging and other such wonders of the internet became the norm, the main way of the average fan to vent his frustration was through the humble fanzine.

Although not every Chairman was happy to see criticism of his club through this media outlet, it is one that has evolved over time and is still with us today nearly 20 years after the first ones were produced.



swans pictured away from the nest

jacks away...



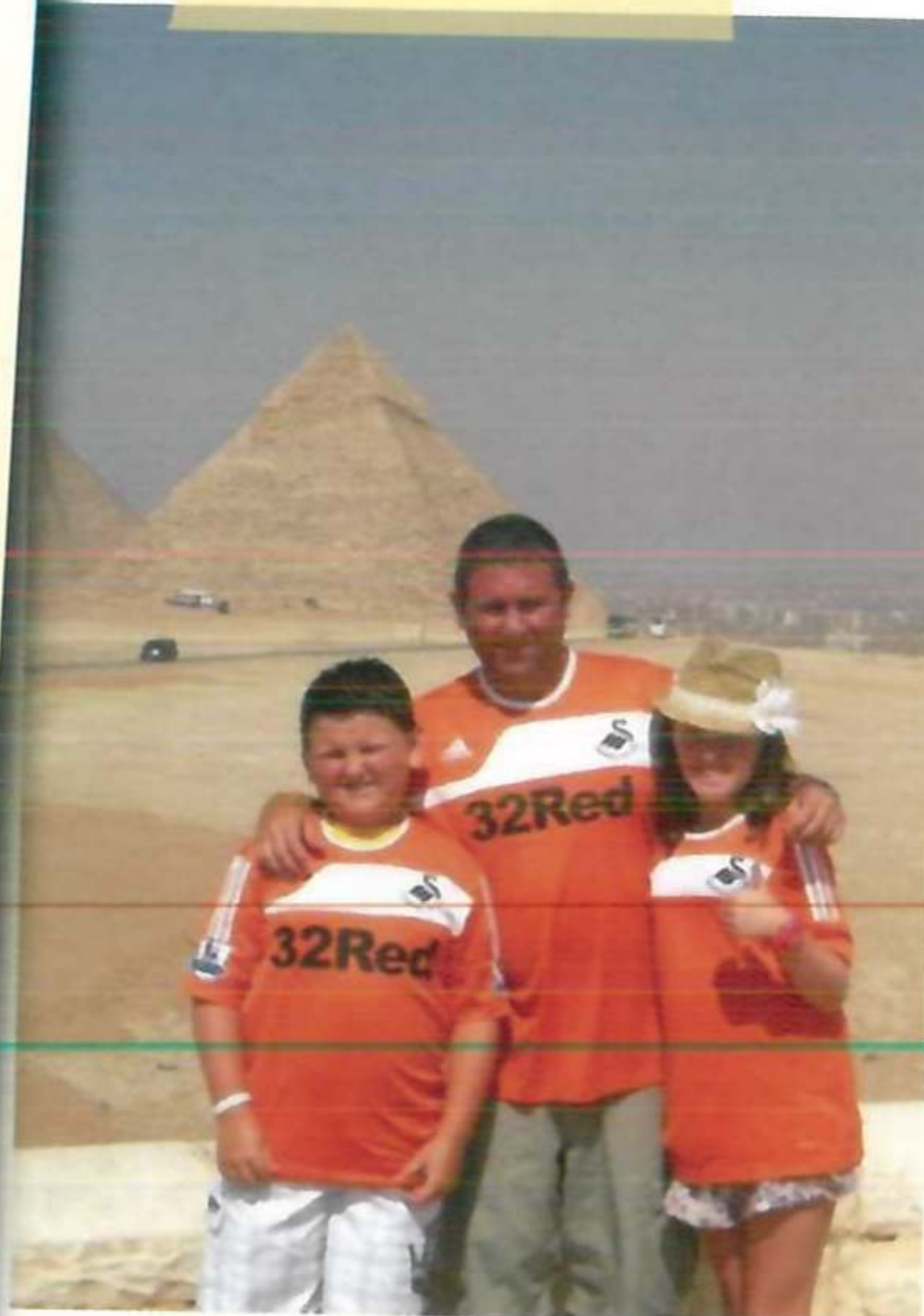
Stephen Dobbie Garden Centre (Tony, Angela and Catrin)



Pictured with Mickey Mouse is Liam and dad Harold North.



My niece Ruby Evans, aged 2, of Pontarddulais. She attended the Real Betis game for her very first taste of football.
Regards, Alison Wilson



John Cursio and family.

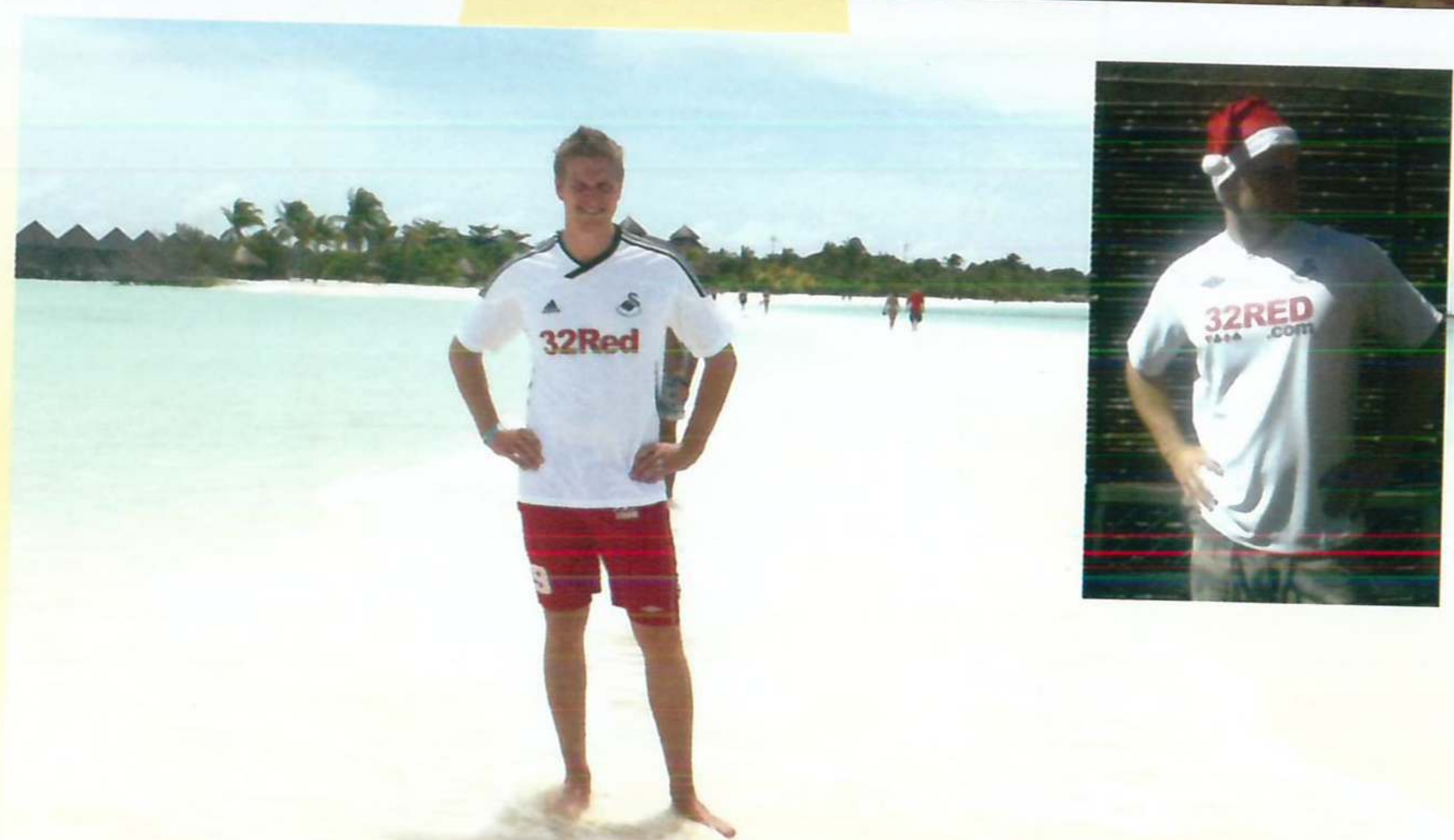


Chris and Rick Lloyd on a Jack Holiday in Turkey

If you would like to be included in this section of the magazine, then please send in your photographs (Swans related) to visions.creative@btconnect.com with a brief description of who, what, where and when!
There is a backlog, please bare with us.



John Williams at the FC Cologne vs Arsenal pre-season friendly at the Rhein Energie Stadion.



Brothers Jonathan and Andrew Davies. Main picture is Jonathan on his honeymoon with Bec, his wife, in the Maldives and inset is Andrew in Sydney, Australia.



Swan Inn (Nigel and Catrin) on the way to Citeh!



Here is my boyfriend James Norman on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. As you can see, we found a very special star!
Rebecca Derrick



Cai Arnold from Rhos, near Pontardawe on holidays in Alcudia, Majorca.

SWANS SUPPORTS ONE GAME, ONE COMMUNITY WEEKS OF ACTION

KICK IT OUT'S One Game, One Community weeks of action is upon us and players, staff and supporters of Swansea City will be pledging their support at today's game against Bolton Wanderers.

Kick It Out continues to operate as football's equality and inclusion campaign, working with players at professional and grass roots and community level, clubs, managers and fans throughout the year.

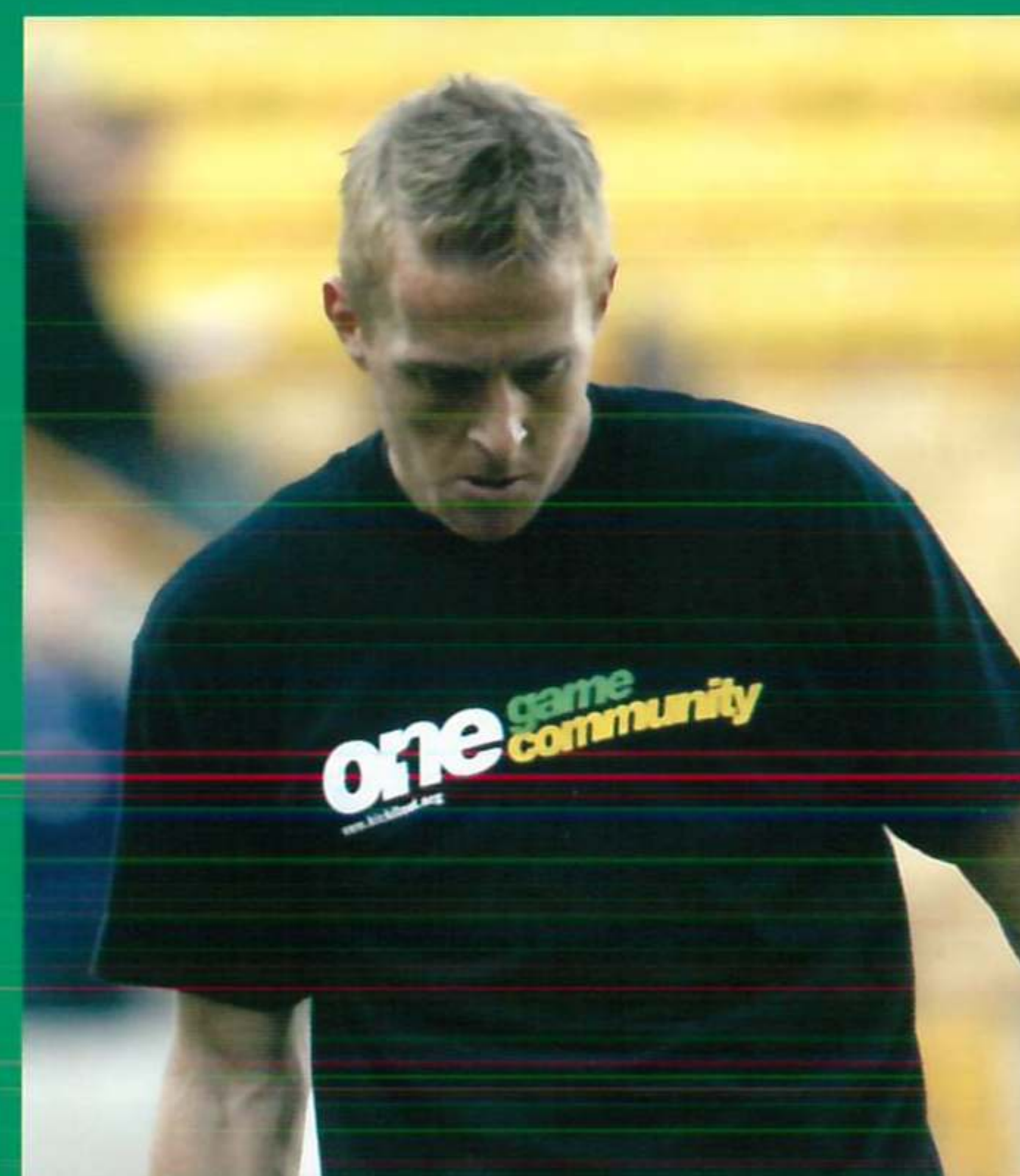
It is during the weeks of action where the campaign is most visible, with this period acting as a united stand against discrimination and a call for equality.

Swans defender Neil Taylor will be flying the flag as club ambassador this season, as professional clubs across England and Wales will be making their own contribution by holding match day events and activities at their nominated fixture.

Lord Herman Ouseley, Chair of Kick It Out, is urging supporters to remain vigilant when it comes to reporting abuse, seen or heard within the stadium:

"Some of the worst excesses of abuse, where players, fans, even managers and coaches, were abused, harassed and attacked based on colour, race and religion, are now thankfully a thing of the past. But, pockets of unacceptable behaviour still exist. It's the duty of everyone within the game to flag this up where and when it happens.

"It's under the banner One Game, One Community which we tackle bigotry, intolerance and anti-social behaviour and its presence in our game. If something or someone is damaging your experience of football, share it with the appropriate governing body, club or contact Kick It Out where details will be taken, and acted upon."



today's mascots...



▶ Hi, my name is Dylan Harvey Patterson and I am 7 years old, my interests are football, rugby, reading, xbox and playing golf. My favorite player is Scott Sinclair
Dylan is honoured to be leading the Swans out today and would love to dedicate this opportunity to all his friends at Alltwen primary school and especially to his little brother Harry who tragically died recently and will be deeply missed by all who knew him. We would also like to thank everyone who have given their time, love and support to Harrys Fund. To find out more about harrys Fund and ways in which you could help please visit www.harrysfund.org.uk

▶ Hi, my name is Joseph Cheeke and I come from Merthyr Tydfil
I attend Ynysowen Primary School. My favourite player is Kevin Davies
and I play football just for Penydarren BGC



▶ Hi, my name is Ifan Freeman and I am from Carmarthen, I attend Peniel CP
and my favourite player is Scott Sinclair
I play football for Peniel Panthers and I have one sister Mari

▶ Hi, my name is Mari Elin Freeman and I am from Carmarthen, I attend Peniel CP
and my favourite player is Joe Allen
I play football for Peniel Panthers and I have one brother Ifan



▶ Hi, my name is Alex Brooks and I am from Pentrechwyth, I attend Tridenauw
and my favourite player is Nathan Dyer. I play football for llangyfelach U9s
and have one brother, Ryan

▶ Hi, my name is Kuba Williams and I am from Porthcawl
I attend British School, Warsaw and my favourite player is Scott Sinclair
I play football for the school team and ABSSC



in opposition...



AFTER A SOLID season last term, Bolton have become an established Premier League club following their return to the top flight in 2001...

After two relegations from the Premier League during the 1990's many fans would have put Bolton down as one of those clubs that continually moves up and down from English football's top two divisions.

But, in fact, it's been far different since they disposed of Preston North End in the Division One play-off final at the Millennium Stadium back in May 2001. They won 3-0 that afternoon in the Welsh capital to return to the top flight after an absence of just three seasons.

Since the inception of the Premier League in 1992, Bolton first won promotion in 1995 after a thrilling 4-3 win over Reading in the play-off final at Wembley.

But their stay lasted just one season as they finished bottom of the league, but after a swift return in 1997, they were once again relegated at the end of the 1997/1998 season but only on goal difference as Everton survived at their expense on a dramatic final day of the season. But after bouncing back in 2001, Wanderers slowly became a force in the Premier League under Allardyce, after narrowly avoiding relegation in both 2002 and 2003.

However, after reaching the Carling Cup final in 2004 where they lost to Middlesbrough, Bolton went one better during the 2004/2005 campaign when they finished sixth in the league, thus qualifying for the UEFA Cup for the following season.

Their adventure into Europe was an impressive one as they reached the last 32 before being knocked out by French giants Marseille, but they qualified again in 2007 where they recorded a famous 2-2 draw away at Bayern

Munich on their way to reaching the last 16 after wins over Atletico Madrid and Red Star Belgrade.

They have continued to consolidate their position in the league and after reaching the semi-finals of the FA Cup last season, fans' expectations were high going into the current campaign.

However, they are yet to earn a single point at the Reebok this season, despite impressive away wins at Queens Park Rangers and Wigan Athletic.

Their win at the DW Stadium was followed up last weekend with a disappointing defeat at home to Sunderland.

"We are disappointed, particularly with the result and more so with the second half performance," said Coyle. "We came into the game on the back of an excellent win last week and we were looking to build on that. We wanted to capitalise on the forward momentum and secure another three points on the board." Despite their disappointing league form, Bolton had been going well in the Carling Cup before their Fourth Round defeat against Arsenal at the Emirates on Tuesday night.

After former Gunners midfielder Fabrice Muamba had given the visitors the lead shortly after half-time, the home side hit back through goals from Park Chu-Young and Andrey Arshavin to deal their passage to the quarter-finals.

"In the first-half I felt that it took us ten minutes to grow into the game and then after that we more than matched Arsenal," said Coyle.

"Anyone who was here tonight will have seen that we created the clearest of the opportunities. The lads stuck to their task and we passed it well, knocking the ball around with confidence."



bolton fact file...

Formed: 1874

Stadium: Reebok Stadium

Capacity: 28,101

Manager: Owen Coyle

Record Attendance:

69,912 v Manchester City, FA Cup Fifth Round, 18 February 1933

Website: www.bwfc.co.uk



Johan Elmander

Record League Victory: 8-0 v Barnsley, 6 October 1934

Record Premier League Defeat: 0-6 v Manchester United, 25 February 1996

Record Scorer: Nat Lofthouse, 285 goals (1946-1960)

Highest League Scorer in Season: Joe Smith, 38 goals (1920-21)

Most appearances: Eddie Hopkinson, 578 appearances (1952-1970)

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £8.25million to Toulouse for Johan Elmander, 2008

Record Transfer Fee Received: £15million from Chelsea for Nicolas Anelka, January 2008

About the manager: Owen Coyle

BEFORE MOVING to the Reebok Stadium, Coyle had experienced success with Lancashire rivals Burnley, who he guided to the Premier League after winning the Championship play-off final in 2009.

He began his 22-year playing career in his native Scotland with Dumbarton, before joining Bolton in 1993 where he made 54 appearances in two seasons, including the 1995 First Division play-off final when Bolton beat Reading to reach to the Premier League.

However, he moved to Dundee United in the summer and remained north of the border for the remainder of his career taking in spells at Dunfermline, Falkirk and St Johnstone to name but a few.

Coyle began his managerial career with Falkirk in January 2003 whilst still being a senior player at the club.

In his first full season with Burnley he took them to within touching distance of the Carling Cup final when his side narrowly lost to Tottenham, but they won promotion to the top flight after beating Sheffield United in the play-off final.

But he departed for Bolton in January 2010 and led the Trotters to safety after a poor start to the campaign under former boss Gary Megson, bringing in quality players such as Jack Wilshere as Bolton finished a respectable 14th. During his time as a player, Coyle won one cap for the Republic of Ireland,

who he qualified for through his Irish descent. His only appearance was a 1-0 friendly win over the Netherlands in April 1994.





Nat Lofthouse

The late Nat Lofthouse was a one-club man during a distinguished playing career that saw him make 452 appearances for Bolton during 14 years at the club.

Lofthouse joined the club as a youngster in 1939, scoring two goals on his debut in a wartime win against Bury. He didn't make his league debut for the Trotters until 1946 when he scored another brace in a 4-3 defeat to Chelsea.

He was named English Footballer of the Year in 1953 and scored in the famous FA Cup final the same year when Stanley Matthews inspired Blackpool to a 4-3 win over Bolton at Wembley. He had scored in every round leading up to the final and topped the First Division scoring charts that season with 30 goals.

However, almost five years to the day in 1958, Lofthouse captained Bolton to a 2-0 win over Manchester United, scoring twice as they claimed the FA Cup.

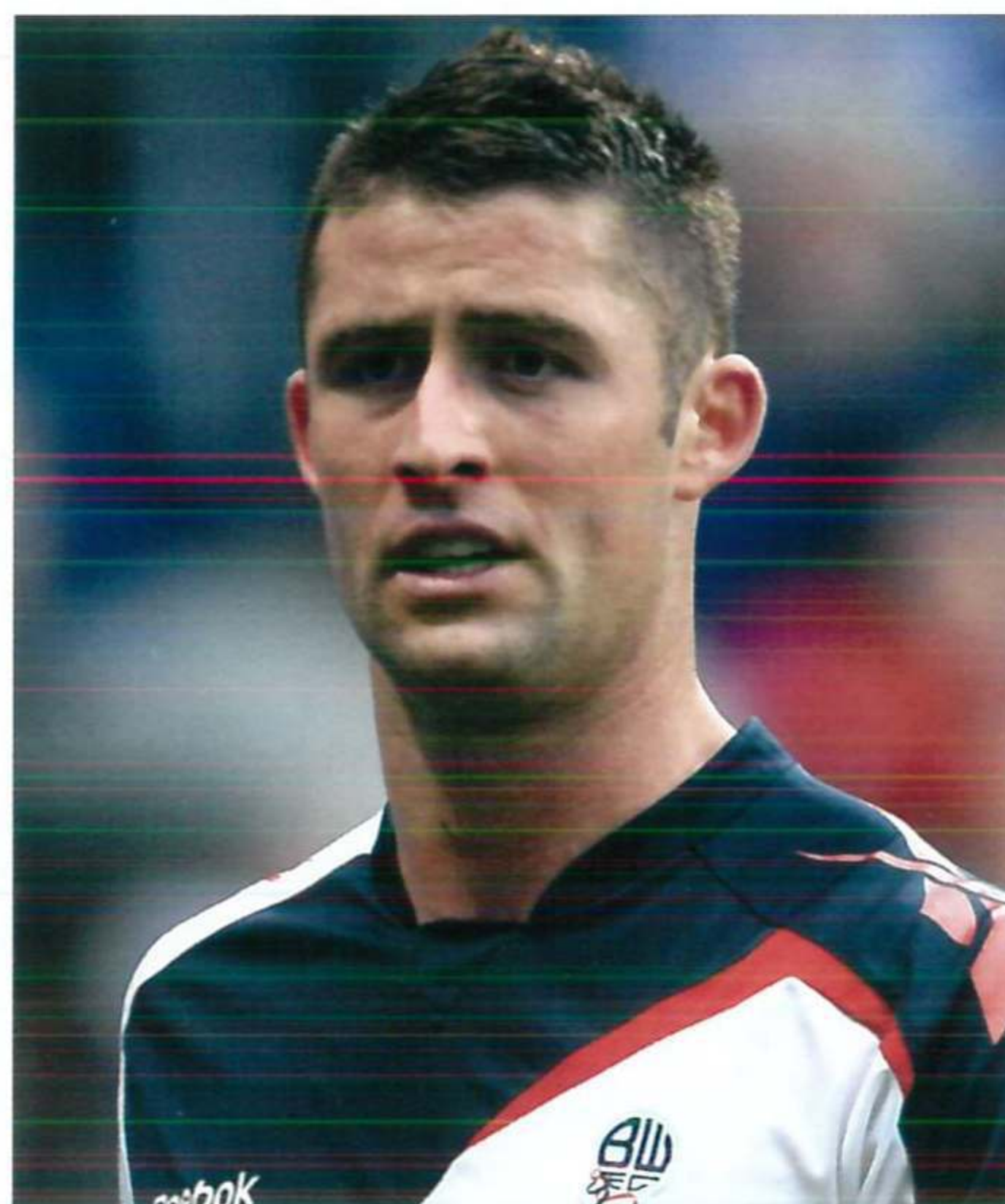
He retired in January 1960 due to an ankle injury and experienced many different roles at the club in the next two decades, such as caretaker manager and club president. Lofthouse was awarded an OBE in January 1994 and Bolton named their East Stand after him when they moved to the Reebok Stadium in 1997.

He died on 15 January 2011 at the age of 85 and thousands turned out to say goodbye at his funeral.

Overall, he scored 255 goals in 452 games as well as being capped 33 times by England between 1950 and 1958, scoring 30 goals.

star men at

With Bolton in their tenth consecutive Premier League campaign, CHRIS PENN profiles four of the visiting players to look out for...



Gary Cahill

Date of Birth: 19/12/1985

Place of Birth: Sheffield

Position: Defender

Previous Clubs: Aston Villa, Burnley (loan), Sheffield United (loan)

The highly sought after English centre back started his career at Aston Villa, where he was on loan to Burnley in his first season. At Turf Moor he was made Burnley's Player of the Year and Young Player of the Year after many brilliant displays. These displays continued when he returned to Villa with pundits tipping him for big things; however, he found himself loaned out to Sheffield United for three months in September 2007 and a month after returning he was bought by Bolton where he has established himself as a favourite among the fans. Making the number five shirt his own, Cahill has amounted around 120 league appearances for the club, scoring 12 goals in the process. The Englishman has also had a fledgling international career, making six appearances for his country as well becoming the first Bolton player to net for England since Ray Parry when he scored for England against Bulgaria in September.

Kevin Davies

Date of Birth: 26/3/1977

Place of Birth: Sheffield

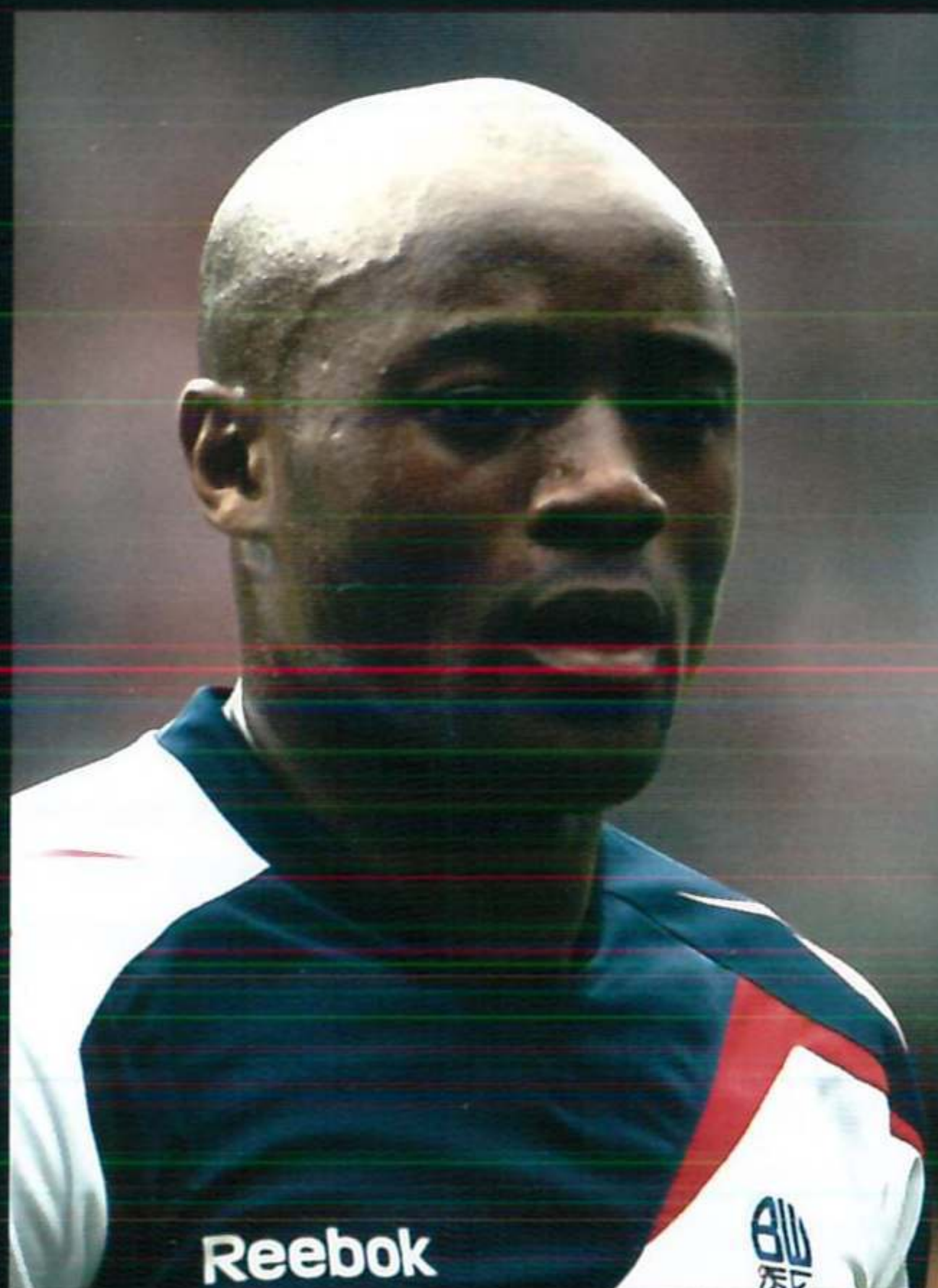
Position: Striker

Previous Clubs: Chesterfield, Southampton, Blackburn Rovers, Southampton, Millwall (loan)

The Bolton captain signed for Chesterfield back in 1993 after being released from his boyhood club Sheffield United. He broke into the first team after several months and was a vital part of the side that reached the FA Cup semi-finals in 1997. He was used more as a midfielder whilst at Saltergate, his best tally being 11 goals in the 1994/95 season where they gained promotion from Division Three via the play-offs. After the FA Cup success, he went to Southampton where his ability carried on shining through and nine goals in 25 league appearances paved the way for a move to Blackburn for a club record fee a year later. He was unable to find the form that had been turning heads the last few years so he returned to Southampton the following season. However, he was unable to sustain a first team place in the four years he spent at St Mary's and soon found himself at Bolton. The striker has become a household name at the Reebok, scoring a memorable goal in a 2-2 UEFA Cup draw against Bayern Munich in 2007.



bolton



Nigel Reo-Coker

Date of Birth: 14/5/1984

Place of Birth: Croydon

Position: Midfielder

Previous Clubs: Wimbledon, West Ham United, Aston Villa

Nigel Reo-Coker started his career at Wimbledon, where he worked his way through the ranks to become captain. In 2003 the midfielder signed for Portsmouth, however, due to financial reasons the move was unable to be completed. A year later, West Ham signed the Englishman where he soon became a prominent member of the team as well as club captain. Reo-Coker made 125 league appearances for the east London side before making the switch to Aston Villa in 2007 for £8.5million. He spent four years at Villa Park where his leadership skills were used to good effect as he picked up the armband many a time when Gareth Barry and Stylian Petrov were absent. Despite a rise to form under Gerard Houllier, Reo-Coker left the club last summer to join Bolton on a free transfer. He has picked off where he left off this season and has been in great form, netting once in his nice league appearances.

Jussi Jääskeläinen

Date of Birth:

19/4/1975

Place of Birth: Mikkeli, Finland

Position: Goalkeeper

Previous Clubs: Mikkelin Palloilijat, Vaasan Palloseura

The Finnish goalkeeper started his footballing career in his home country playing for Mikkelin Palloilijat and Vaasan Palloseura. After spending five years in Finland he moved to First Division Bolton in 1997. In the 2000/01 season he achieved promotion to the Premier League with the Trotters despite spending a majority of the season out injured. After being voted as the best goalkeeper in the league, Jääskeläinen began to attract interest from clubs like Arsenal, Real Madrid and AC Milan. In 2005 and 2007, the Finland international helped the club secure UEFA Cup spots before signing a four-year contract during the summer of 2007, amidst speculation over a move away from the Reebok Stadium. In March 2011 he past 500 appearances for Bolton which means that he is on track to beat Eddie Hopkinson's record of 578 appearances for the club, a just reward for the Fin's loyalty to Bolton.



notable former players

Jay-Jay Okocha

The former Nigeria midfielder became a hero in Bolton after a four-year spell at the Reebok Stadium between 2002 and 2006.

After beginning his career in Germany with Third Division side Borussia Neunkirchen, Okocha signed for Eintracht Frankfurt in 1992 and made 90 appearances over four seasons.

The Nigerian then signed for Turkish side Fenerbahce where he scored 30 goals in just 63 appearances in two seasons before he really made his name in France with Paris Saint-Germain; the club he joined after an impressive showing for the Super Eagles at the 1998 World Cup.

He was rumoured to have signed for PSG for a fee of around \$24million, a record for an African player at the time.

He made 124 appearances in the French capital, the most he ever made for a single club, before going on to represent Nigeria at the 2002 World Cup in Japan and South Korea.

Okocha sensationally signed for Bolton on a free transfer following the finals and helped Wanderers avoid relegation in his first season as he scored seven goals, namely a fine finish against West Ham United in a crucial six-pointer.

He was then named captain for the following season and helped Bolton reach the 2004 Carling Cup final where they were beaten 2-1 by Middlesbrough at the Millennium Stadium.

Following the 2005-06 season Okocha moved to Qatar but after just one year, he returned to England to join Championship side Hull City. He helped the Tigers win promotion to the Premier League but decided to hang up his boots at the end of the campaign.

Okocha was capped 73 times by his country, scoring 14 goals and playing in three World Cups and helping Nigeria win the 1996 Olympics and 1994 African Cup of Nations.



managing to succeed bolton wanderers



JOHN SOMERVILLE

Scottish right-back John Somerville gave Bolton Wanderers splendid service as both a player and manager. Initially with Ayr Parkhouse, he moved to Bolton in March 1890, helping reach the FA Cup final in 1894 and win promotion back to the top-flight at the first attempt in 1900. He scored twice in 265 League games and became the club's first secretary-manager in July 1908. Steering Bolton to the Second Division title in 1908-09, he was dismissed as manager in January 1910 after a shock FA Cup defeat by Stockport but continued as secretary until May 1910. He was then a Football League linesman and died in March 1917.

CHARLES FOWERAKER

Long-serving secretary-manager Charles Foweraker plotted Bolton Wanderers' 1923, 1926 and 1929 FA Cup final triumphs. Previously employed by the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway in the goods section, he assisted Tom Mather at Burnden Park and

became Bolton's secretary-manager in July 1919. He twice led Wanderers to third place in the top-flight, then guided Bolton to promotion and the FA Cup semi-finals in 1934-35. Awarded the Football League's long service medal in July 1938, he remained in charge during the war years until retiring through ill health in August 1944. He resided locally until his death in July 1950.

WALTER ROWLEY

Full-back Walter Rowley gave Bolton Wanderers 38 years' service as player, coach and manager. He had spells at Little Hulton and Oldham Athletic prior to joining Bolton in August 1912. Netting seven goals in 175 First Division games before becoming Wanderers' reserve team coach in May 1925, he was later first-team coach and succeeded Charles Foweraker as Bolton's manager in August 1944. Plotting their 1945 Football League North Cup triumph, he also guided Wanderers to the FA Cup semi-finals in 1945-46. He resigned in October 1950 and later managed

Middlesbrough and Shrewsbury. He died in March 1976.

BILL RIDDING

Long-serving manager Bill Ridding plotted Bolton Wanderers' 1958 FA Cup final success. A former inside-forward, he had spells with Tranmere Rovers, Manchester City, Manchester United, Northampton, Tranmere again and Oldham until injury ended his playing career. He became Tranmere's trainer, then manager during the Second World War and spent five years as Bolton's trainer before succeeding Walter Rowley as manager in October 1950. Guiding them to the 1953 FA Cup final and four top six finishes in the top-flight, he resigned in August 1968 and was a physiotherapist. He died locally in September 1981.

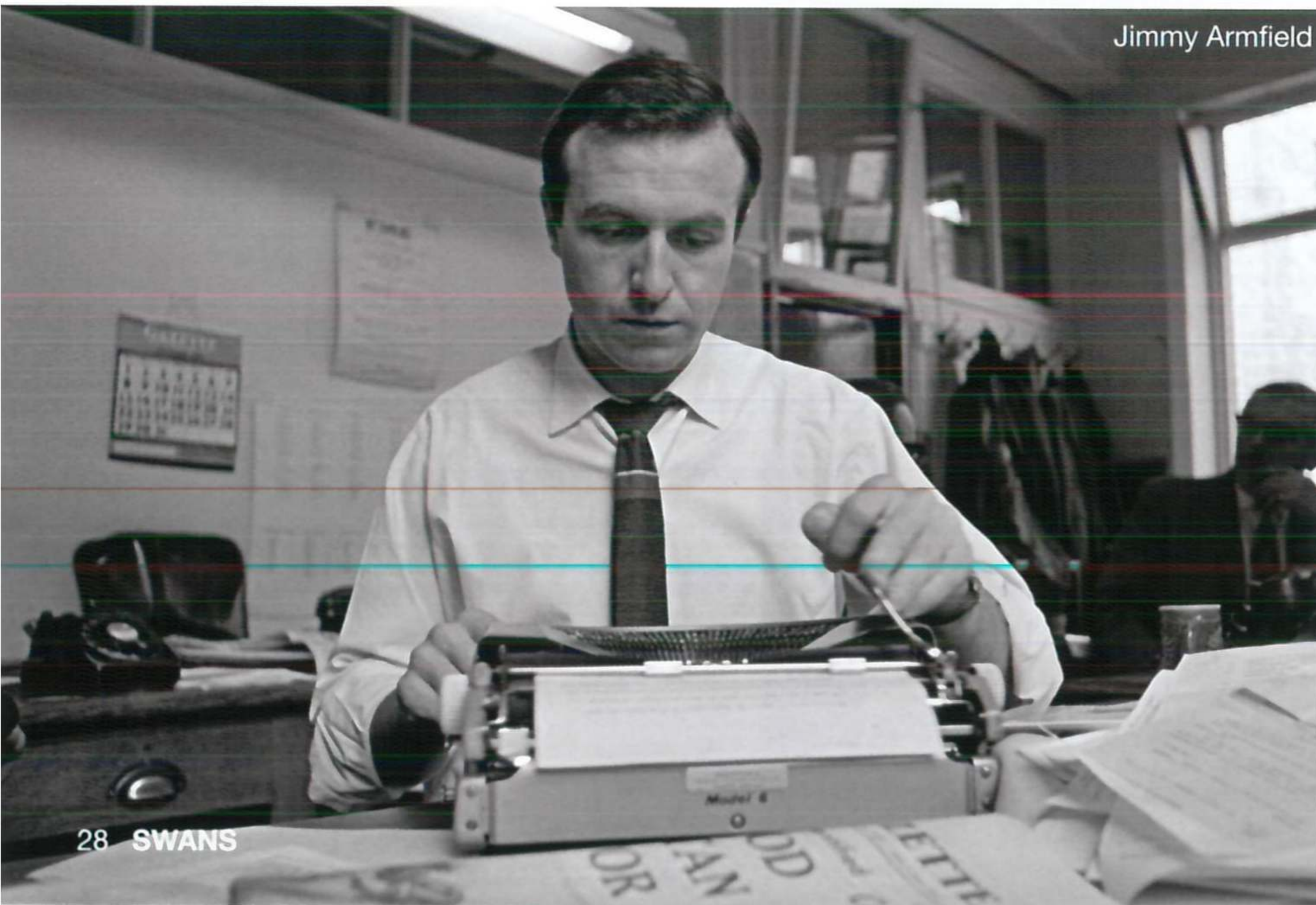
JIMMY ARMFIELD

Ex-England international right-back Jimmy Armfield managed Bolton Wanderers' 1972-73 Third Division title triumph. Signing professional for Blackpool in September 1954, he helped them finish League Championship runners-up in 1955-56, then reach the League Cup semi-finals in 1961-62 and skippered their 1969-70 promotion success. He set their appearance record and became Bolton's manager in May 1971. Also guiding Wanderers to the FA Cup fifth round in 1972-73, he took charge of Leeds United in October 1974 and led them to the 1975 European Cup final. He has since worked extensively in the media.

IAN GREAVES

Ian Greaves plotted Bolton Wanderers' 1977-78 Second Division title triumph. Initially with Manchester United, the full-back helped win the League Championship in 1955-56 and was an FA Cup finalist in 1958. Later with Oldham Athletic and Altrincham, he became Huddersfield's boss in June 1968 and led them to the Second Division title in 1969-70.

Jimmy Armfield





Phil Neal

He was Bolton's manager from October 1974 until January 1980, taking them to the League Cup semi-finals in 1976-77. Following spells in charge of Oxford United and Wolves, he guided Mansfield to promotion and Freight Rover Trophy success. He died in January 2009.

PHIL NEAL

Ex-England international right-back Phil Neal plotted Bolton Wanderers' 1989 Sherpa Van Trophy final success. Starting with Northampton Town, he was ever-present in 1973-74 and moved to Liverpool in October 1974. He amassed a vast collection of honours, becoming Bolton's player-boss in December 1985 and guided them to the 1986 Freight Rover Trophy final, then promotion in 1987-88. Netting three goals in 64 League games, he also twice led Wanderers to the Third Division play-offs before leaving in May 1992. He was then manager/coach at Coventry City, Cardiff and Manchester City prior to working in the media.

BRUCE RIOCH

Former Scotland international midfielder Bruce Rioch managed Bolton Wanderers to the 1995 League Cup final. He won

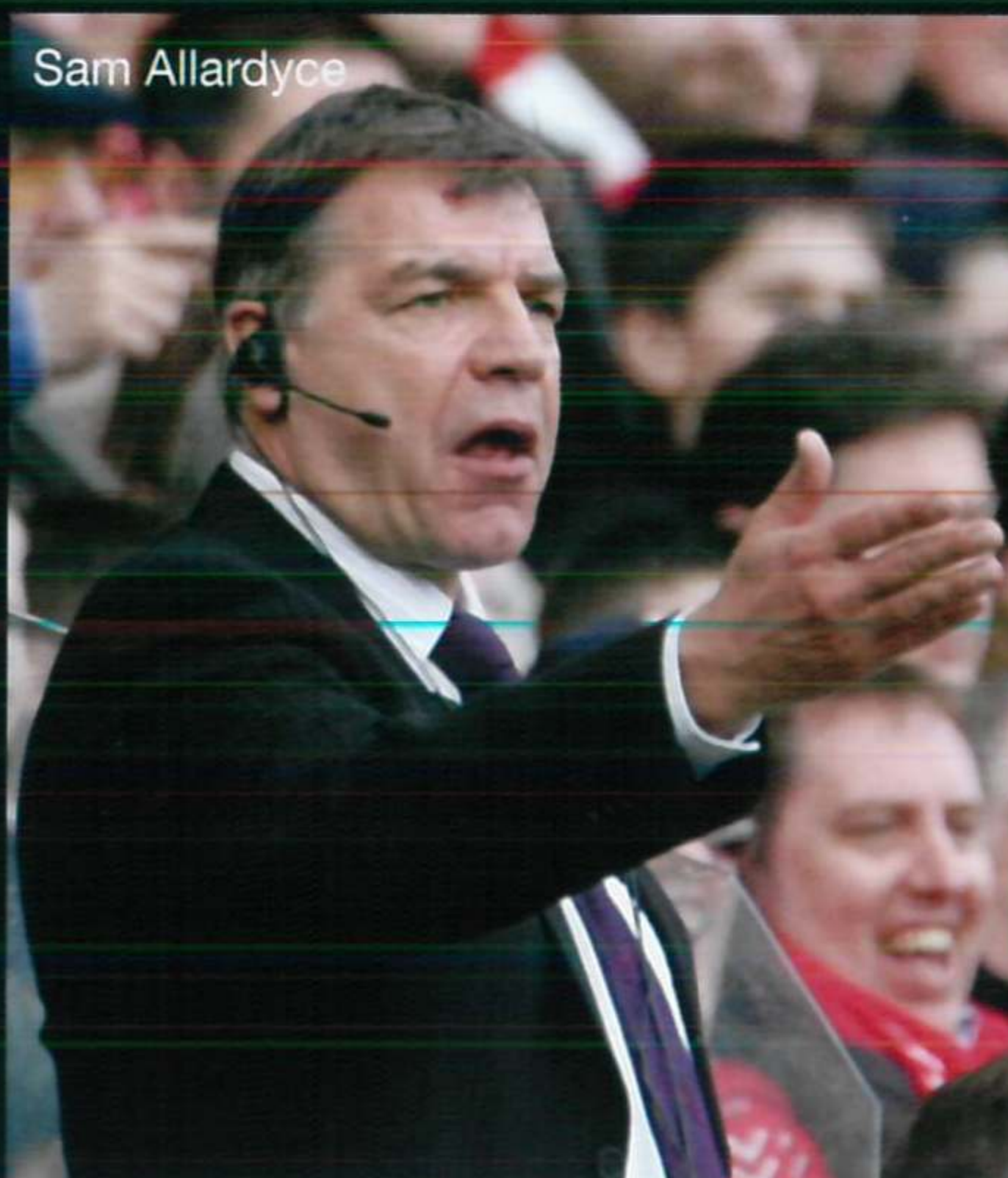
promotion with Luton in 1967-68 and Aston Villa in 1971-72, then starred in Derby's 1974-75 League Championship success. After spells with Everton and Derby again, he was Torquay's player-boss before becoming Middlesbrough's manager in March 1986. He plotted their rise to the top-flight, then managed Millwall and took charge of Bolton in May 1992. Guiding them to promotion in 1992-93 and 1994-95, he left in June 1995 to become Arsenal's boss, then managed Norwich City and Wigan Athletic.

COLIN TODD

Ex-England international central defender Colin Todd managed Bolton Wanderers' 1996-97 First Division title triumph. Initially with Sunderland, he moved to Derby County in February 1971 and starred in their 1971-72 and 1974-75 League Championship successes. He was PFA Player of the Year in 1975 and later played for Everton, Birmingham, Nottingham Forest, Oxford United and Luton Town. He assisted Bruce Rioch at Middlesbrough, replacing him as manager, then reunited with him at Bolton and was manager from January 1996 until September 1999. He has since managed Swindon, Bradford City and Darlington.

SAM ALLARDYCE

Sam Allardyce managed Bolton Wanderers to the 2004 Carling Cup final. Signing professional for Bolton in November 1971, the central defender starred in the 1977-78 Second Division title triumph and moved to



Sam Allardyce

Sunderland in July 1980. He later played for Millwall, Coventry, Huddersfield, Bolton again, Preston and West Brom, becoming Blackpool's boss in July 1994. Managing Notts County to the Third Division title in 1997-98, he rejoined Bolton as manager in October 1999, guiding them back to the Premiership in 2000-01 and UEFA Cup qualification. He left in May 2007, since managing Newcastle, Blackburn and West Ham.

last time out

Bolton 0-2 Sunderland

Two goals in the last ten minutes condemned Bolton to another home defeat as they remain pointless at the Reebok so far this season.

The home side started brightly and could have taken the lead on two occasions through Darren Pratley, who raced onto Ngog's pull back to fire wide, before Kevin Davies played a neat ball into the former Swansea midfielder but he slipped and the ball was cleared.

However, Sunderland managed to grow into the game and they should have taken the lead just before half-time when John O'Shea rose highest to meet Seb Larsson's free kick, but the defender's header flew wide of Jaaskelainen's right-hand post.

Neither side looked like breaking the deadlock during the second period, as David Vaughan and Sessegnon went close, before Conor Wickham hit the post with a low cross-shot.

But the visitors deservedly took the lead with eight minutes to go, as O'Shea headed a corner back across the box and as Wes Brown played in Sessegnon, the midfielder turned neatly and fired past the keeper. And the points headed north in injury time when Sessegnon's run created a chance for Bendtner, and the Danish international coolly slotted home to score his first goal for the Black Cats.

Bolton: Jaaskelainen, Robinson, Cahill, Boyata (Gardner, 53), Wheeler, Eagles, Petrov (Kakuta, 65), Reo-Coker, Pratley, Davies (Klasnic, 65), Ngog

Sunderland: Mignolet, Turner, Brown, Richardson (Bardsley, 87), O'Shea, Larsson, Colback, Vaughan, Sessegnon, Wickham, Bendtner

Attendance: 24,349

links with our visitors

bolton wanderers



PROMOTION PLAY-OFFS

Swansea City's former loan striker Dean Holdsworth featured in Bolton Wanderers' 2000-01 First Division play-off final success. Loaned to Swansea from Watford in August 1988, his solitary goal in five League games came in the following month's 5-2 defeat at Wolves. The England B international joined Bolton from Wimbledon for £3,500,000 in October 1997 and was a semi-finalist in both the FA Cup and League Cup in 1999-2000. He netted 39 goals in 158 League outings while at the Reebok Stadium before moving to Coventry City in November 2002.



WELSH INTERNATIONAL

Welsh international right-back Jackie Roberts appeared for both Bolton Wanderers and Swansea. Moving to Bolton from Cwmbwria in April 1936, he guested for hometown Swansea during the Second World War. He became Wanderers' captain and gained his solitary cap against Belgium in May 1949. Netting 19 goals in 162 League games for Bolton, he joined Swansea for £5,000 in September 1950. He was unfortunately plagued by knee trouble and scored once in 16 Second Division outings while at the Vetch Field prior to joining Llanelly in August 1951.

PROMOTION WINNER

One-time Swansea inside-right George Eastham was an influential figure in Bolton Wanderers' 1934-35 promotion success. Signing professional for Bolton in August 1932, he also starred as they narrowly missed promotion in 1933-34 and were FA Cup semi-

finalists in 1934-35. The England international netted 16 goals in 114 League games for Wanderers before moving to Brentford in May 1937. Joining Swansea from Blackpool in August 1947, he made 15 Third Division (South) appearances while at the Vetch Field before moving to Rochdale in June 1948.

CUP HERO

Former Swansea inside-forward Evan Jones featured prominently as Bolton Wanderers reached the FA Cup semi-finals in 1914-15. The Welsh international joined Bolton from Oldham Athletic in May 1912 and missed just one match in 1912-13, then helped Wanderers finish sixth in the top-flight in 1913-14. Netting 24 goals in 90 First Division games for today's visitors, he moved to Swansea in July 1919. He scored in both of his first two matches for the Swans, netting eight times in 24 Southern League games while at the Vetch Field prior to joining Pontypridd in July 1920.

ENGLAND INTERNATIONAL

England international winger John Salako played for both Swansea City and Bolton Wanderers. He was loaned to Swansea from Crystal Palace in August 1989 and netted three goals in 13 League games while at the Vetch Field, including two in the 3-1 victory at Bristol City. Capped five times by his country, he joined struggling Bolton from Coventry City in March 1998 but was unable to prevent them from being relegated straight back to the First Division. He made seven



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substitute appearances for Wanderers in the Premier League before joining Fulham in July 1998.

TOP-FLIGHT

Ex-Swansea winger Henry Boston helped Bolton Wanderers to finish third in the top-flight in 1924-25. Moving from hometown Nantwich to Bolton in November 1923, he made his League debut in their 1-0 win over Aston Villa two months later and understudied England international Billy Butler. He appeared in Bolton's triumphant 1925-26 FA Cup run and netted three goals in 39 First Division games before joining West Brom in June 1929. Moving to Swansea in May 1931, he made 19 League appearances while at the Vetch Field prior to rejoining Nantwich in August 1933.

IN SAFE KEEPING

Goalkeeper Andy Oakes played for both Bolton Wanderers and Swansea City. He joined Bolton on loan from Derby County in August 2004 and his only Premier League appearance was in place of Jussi Jaaskelainen in Wanderers' 2-1 defeat at home to Aston Villa three months later. Moving to Swansea from Walsall in August 2006, he contested a first-team slot with Willy Gueret and made his debut in the 2-1 victory at home to Crewe Alexandra. He also played in the next match at Nottingham Forest, making four League appearances before joining Darlington in July 2007.



CUP FINALIST

Former Bolton Wanderers winger John Millington scored for Swansea in the 1938 Welsh Cup final. He turned professional with Bolton in August 1933 but failed to make any first-team appearances for his hometown club and joined Clapton Orient in June 1934. Moving to Swansea from Birmingham in December 1937, he netted seven goals in 44 League outings prior to joining Scunthorpe United in June 1939. Ex-Bolton reserve winger Ernie Jones joined Swansea in October 1943 and netted three goals in 37 League outings before moving to Tottenham Hotspur in May 1947.

fun facts...

- Radio 1 DJ Vernon Kay is a massive Bolton fan, along with boxer Amir Khan and comedian Paddy McGuinness
- They are nicknamed The Trotters because a former ground was near a pig farm, and stray balls would keep ending up in the pig pens!
- The biggest win in the club's history was the 13-0 demolition of Sheffield United in February 1890 during an FA Cup tie
- Bolton have won the FA Cup four times in their history and in each of the finals they haven't conceded a single goal!
- The club were formed in 1874 under the name Christ Church but soon changed their name to Bolton Wanderers and were founder members of the Football League
- Bolton beat Swansea Town 3-0 in an FA Cup semi-final at White Hart Lane in 1926 with Bolton going on to beat Manchester City in the final

bolton by numbers...

78%

The percentage of games that Bolton have lost this season

24

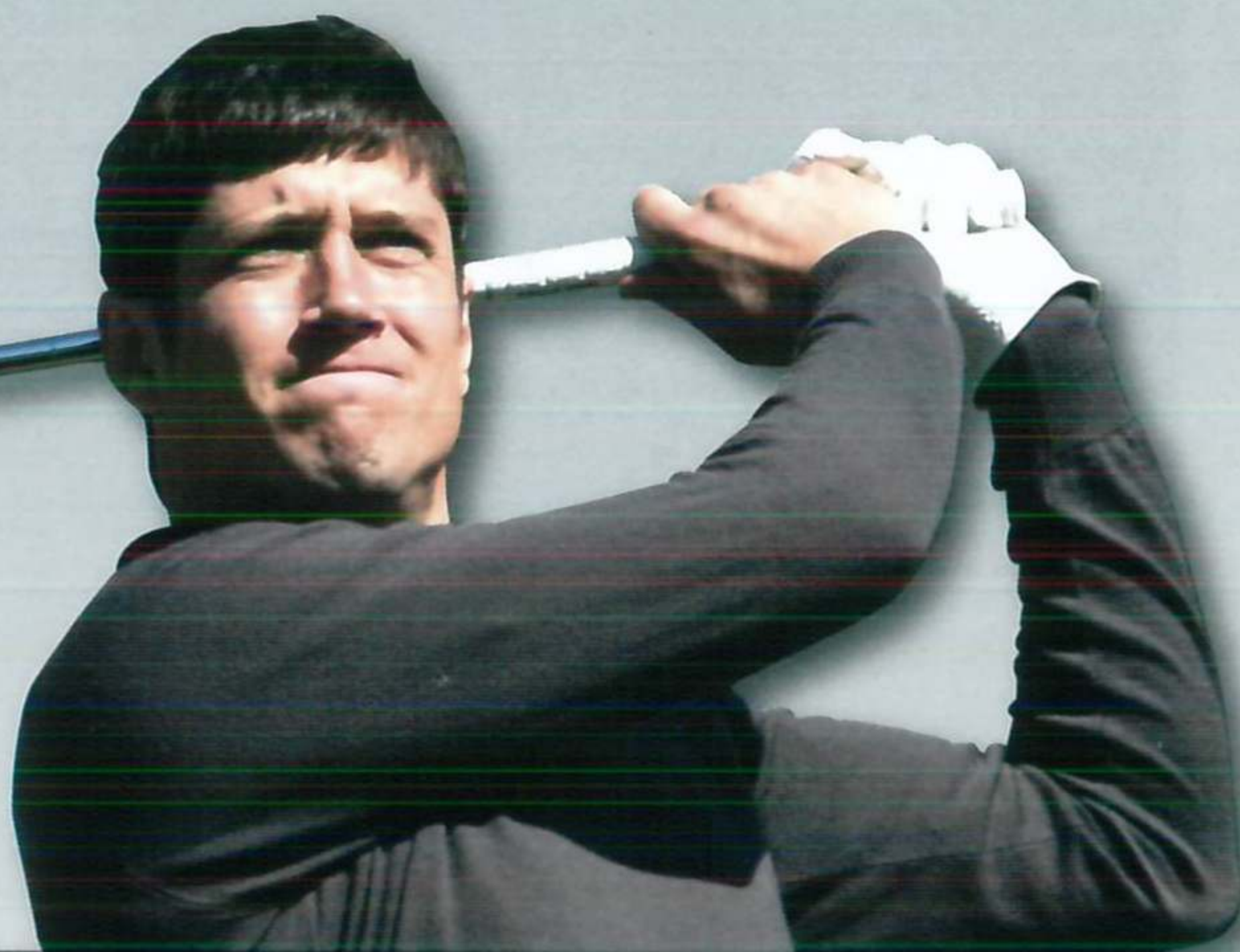
The number of goals that Bolton have conceded so far this season, the most in the top flight

7

Bolton have lost seven games so far, more than any other Premier League team

2.67

The number of goals on average that Bolton have conceded in each league game



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PLACE: Capitol Hill, Washington

PEOPLE: Chris Stibbs, Group Finance Director, The Economist Group
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SWANS Player



ALAN TATE is a popular target when the banter flies around the Swans squad these days.

Sidelined through his unfortunate golf buggy accident, Tatey certainly hasn't got off lightly with his team-mates.

And Neil Taylor has added further ammunition for the squad to launch at Tatey.

"When people ask me who the least intelligent member of the squad is, I have to say Tatey," said Taylor with a big grin. "It's not only because he would say myself if he was asked, but there is one occasion that really sets him apart from the rest of the boys.

"It was the time when he tried cooking a pizza on the hob – now that is something really special from Tatey."

Wales international Taylor was speaking on Jack-cess All Areas – a free, weekly online magazine show screened every Friday on our website.

On the show we speak to a Swans player about life at the Liberty while

they also dish the dirt on the squad in our Team-mates feature.

As well as Taylor, the show has seen Scott Sinclair, Joe Allen and Nathan Dyer sit in the hotseat.

But there's plenty more action on our website.

Subscribe to Swans Player – the club's own online premium video service available via the official website – and you will catch highlights from every Premier League game along with hearing the thoughts of Brendan and the boys before and after matches.

Swans Player members can also hear live commentary of every kick this season – home and away – along with behind-the-scenes footage – all for under 10p a day.

You can feel the full benefits of Swans Player with our free 14-day trial, but you'll have to be quicker than Nathan Dyer if you want to sign up as the deal ends at midnight on October 31.

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He's the youngster whose stock continues to rise, and BEN DONOVAN caught up with him to talk about life in the Premier League, international dreams and the day he signed for Swansea City

not your average joe

“

We're so privileged being in our line of work and it's important to remember that and try and work hard and be the best you can be

”

IT WAS A JOURNEY that he and his parents had made numerous times before as they set off from their home in Narberth. For many, it was just another day. But for 16-year-old Joe Allen, it was one he would never forget.

It was April 2006 and the youngster was travelling to Swansea to find out whether he was going to be offered a scholarship by the club he had been at since he was nine years old.

“I can remember the day clearly,” recalls Joe. “It was just a normal school day but all day I knew that we would be finding out that evening.

“Me and my dad made the trip but I wasn't sure which way it was going to go, and it was definitely the most nerve-racking experience of my life.

“But it was also one of the most enjoyable when I found out that they were taking me on.”

And the midfielder can clearly remember his reaction to the news that was broken by Head of Youth development at the time, David Moss.

“A wave of amazement just came over me really,” he said. “It was

what I had been working towards for so long and it was one of the first times that I felt like I was taking a step in the right direction to making it as a professional footballer.”

But it could have been so different.

There were initial doubts over his size that threatened his dream during his final year as an Under-16s player that nearly resulted in him leaving the club.

“During the autumn and winter of that season I doubted myself as to whether I would make it with Swansea,” he revealed. “I never thought it mattered to the way I played football, but you have to adapt to different things and I suppose I used that to my advantage.

“But I've been lucky in the sense that all the coaches I have worked with have all helped me and given me a chance.

“I often thought to myself if the size issue was going to stop me making it with this club, but I didn't think it would hold me back long term.

“But the second half of that season went really well for me and I never really looked back.”

After being spotted while playing for local side Tenby, Swans scout Ray Evans arranged a six-week trial for the youngster before the club signed him for the School of Excellence.

That was when the journey began, and Joe points to the two people that have helped make his dream become a reality. "My parents have easily been the biggest influence on me making it," he said. "To think that I was nine years old and they were willing to give up so much of their time and effort to chase a dream that some people may have thought was unrealistic.

"That was three times a week back and forth for the best part of seven years, and until I signed as a scholar for the youth team you could never have been sure that it had been a success or worth all the effort.

"But I'm so grateful to them for giving me that chance and sticking by me."

From the moment that Joe was told he would be part of the Under-18s set-up for two years in a bid to earn himself a professional contract, he set about turning his dreams into a reality. But for him, the reality came rather quicker than expected amidst an injury crisis in Kenny Jackett's first-team squad ahead of an FA Cup tie against Premier League side Sheffield United back in January 2007.

"I had been doing well for the youth team and a couple of weeks before that game I had been included in first-team training for the first time which was exciting and a massive step up," Joe recalls.

For a 16-year-old first-year scholar, Joe explained that it was a nervous experience but all those fears were extinguished as the Swans swept to a 3-0 win at Bramall Lane.

"They took 17 players away and I wasn't sure if I was going to just make up the numbers or whether I'd get on the bench.

"But it made me realise that that's what I could be doing week in week out and I think it helped me strive towards that." As his good form continued for the youth team, it wasn't long before Joe got his next taste of

first-team action on the final day of the season under new boss Roberto Martinez.

Despite the Swans going down to a 6-3 defeat against Blackpool, one youngster was beaming from ear to ear.

"I only found out that morning that I was in the squad and I thought it was a token gesture to put me on the bench for the final game of the season," Joe says with a wry smile.

"Despite the team losing, and everyone else having a disappointing day, I had a pretty big smile on my face. "But it was an incredible feeling and one that I'll never forget."

After tasting first-team experience while still being eligible for the club's youth team, it would have been easy to let complacency set in as he returned to line up alongside the friends he had grown up with.

But Joe wasn't about to let that happen.

"I was someone who had seen people change with different successes, and I always said to myself that I didn't want to be that person," he said.

"So I've tried to remain completely focussed on football alone; but it's always more important to be a good person than a good footballer.

"I'm close to my family and I've got good people around me who help you deal with the highs and lows. It's just as important to have people to deal with both and my family have kept me level-headed throughout."

With many footballers of Joe's age, particularly in the Premier League, coming under intense scrutiny for the way they conduct themselves off the field, it is refreshing to see a player that just wants to work hard and improve every single day without taking anything for granted.

"We are under too much of a spotlight to let anything or anyone change your focus," he said. "We're so privileged being in our line of work and it's important to remember that and try and work hard and be the best you can be.

"We've got great personalities at this club and there is a real family atmosphere where people want to help you. I think at other clubs that might not be the case."

Already in his short career to date, Joe has tasted success with two promotions and a date at Wembley in the play-off final. And he has just about managed



Continued on p40

the bigger picture





joe allen

season 2011/12

joe allen feature

to pause for breath to take a moment to think about what has happened in such a short space of time, not to mention his first senior goal that couldn't have come at a better venue back in April 2009.

"It's been a rollercoaster ride," he said.

"Even though I didn't feel I was a massive part of the League One title success, being around the team you get that winning mentality and that helped me when I got into the side in the Championship.

"That's another memory that will stay with me forever. It was my first goal in what was an intense game and in the last derby at Ninian Park, so it was a special time."

As well as reflecting on recent successes, it would appear as though the young midfielder has settled into the Premier League like a seasoned professional, and it's often difficult to remember that he is still just 21.

So while some of his friends may be graduating and worrying about finding a job, the youngster from Pembrokeshire finds himself standing toe to toe with some of the biggest names in world football.

"It's exciting and I'm really enjoying it," he said. "It's all new to me in terms of the teams, the players and the venues.

"There are players still playing now that I watched five or six years ago and you would never have dreamed of playing against them, so it can be a bit surreal.

"Sometimes in the tunnel before games, you are standing there and you have to pinch yourself that you are alongside all these great players."

One reason for his success in the last two seasons is Brendan Rodgers, and following last month's game against Chelsea, the Swans boss revealed that the Wales midfielder could one day play for the West London club.

But, for now, Joe is focussing on improving his game and doing well for the club that gave him the opportunity to shine.

"It's fantastic to have a manager that has so much faith in you," he said. "From the style of play he has it suits me perfectly and I'm glad I'm part of his plans.

"It's flattering, obviously. It's nice to hear those words and I'm ambitious so if I keep working hard and stay focussed then you never know what levels I might achieve."

But it isn't just for Swansea that Joe has been excelling. He recently earned his fourth and fifth caps for Wales and his first start for his country

at senior level came at the Liberty Stadium against Switzerland, before turning in another assured display against Bulgaria in Sofia.

And in the build-up to the game against the Swiss, Joe was named as the Welsh Young Player of the Year award to cap a fine year that resulted in promotion to the Premier League.

"For my first start to come at the ground where I play week in week out, it helped me

to settle straight in and I couldn't have asked for much more and it was almost like it was meant to be," he said.

"There's incredible competition for places in the Welsh squad and it was a massive shock. Until the last couple of games I hadn't had too much luck with the international set-up, so to win that award was a boost for me."

The youngster received another boost on the eve of this season, as his fine form was



rewarded with a new four-year contract. "It was a perfect time for me to commit my future," said Joe. "I wanted to get it all sorted before the season started because it was always going to be such a big year ahead."

"I'm glad to be part of a club that's moving forward and it's all come together nicely." Following that spring day in Swansea five years ago, it's fair to say that the journey's are far less nerve-racking nowadays.



Joe aiming to follow in brother's footsteps?

Joe Allen could well be following in his brother's footsteps if he is selected to represent the Great Britain football team at next summer's Olympic Games in London.

Joe's brother Harry, who is two years older than him and a keen footballer, is profoundly deaf and represented Great Britain in the 2009 Deaflympics that was held in Taipei, China.

"When you look at my brother when he was younger, he was good, if not better, than me," said Joe. "It was a massive achievement for him to get called up and I was very proud of him."

Harry is able to hear thanks to a cochlear implant, but he has to remove it when playing which means that lip-reading is the only way he can communicate on the pitch.

"He was able to hear when he was born, but he suffered from meningitis when he was about three and lost his hearing," added Joe. "He had to have specialist teaching after that to learn to speak and listen again, but now he's just like anyone else."

"Deafness maybe held him back but because we were from a sporting family, we were always playing football together and he has gone on to represent Great Britain and do his own things with football, which is very pleasing." But Joe, who has been in excellent form for both club and country so far this season, has admitted that London 2012 would be something he would be interested in if the opportunity arose.

"If any player was up for selection for the Olympics I'm sure they'd be excited," he said. "It will be an incredible occasion and it's one everyone in Britain is looking forward to."

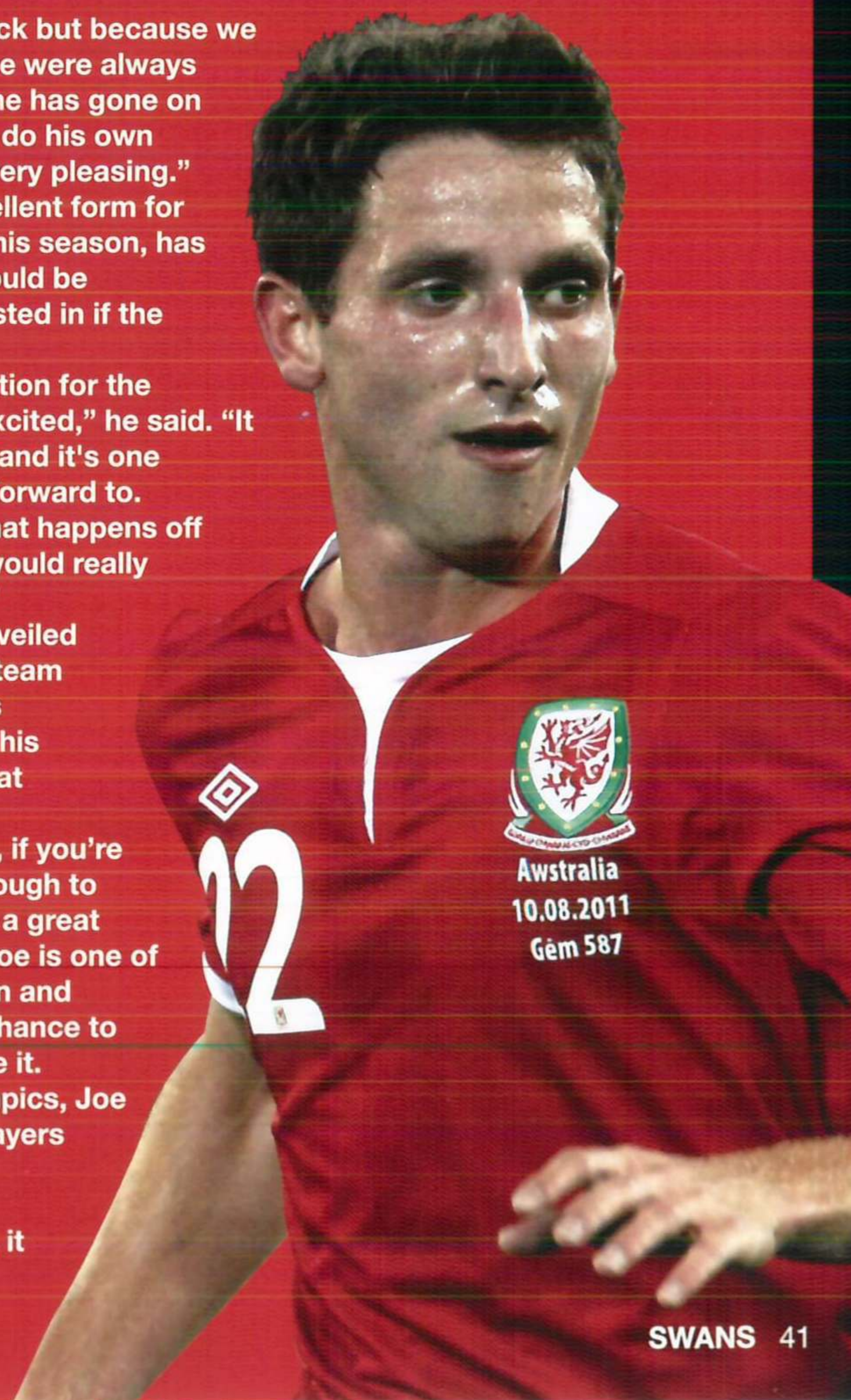
"We'll have to wait and see what happens off the field, but it's something I would really look forward to being part of."

Stuart Pearce was recently unveiled as the manager for the men's team next summer, and Swans boss Brendan Rodgers has backed his young starlet to represent Great Britain if selected.

"My own personal view is that, if you're a player and deemed good enough to play in an Olympic Games, it's a great opportunity," said Brendan. "Joe is one of the top young players in Britain and certainly, if he was given the chance to do that, I would tell him to take it."

"In a tournament like the Olympics, Joe would come up against top players from other countries."

"When you test yourself and measure yourself against that, it makes you better."



the swans stood head and shoulders above their opponents...

IN ALMOST 35 years of watching the Swans I've enjoyed celebrating some hugely satisfying victories. The 3-1 win over Spurs in the League Cup in

1978, beating Preston by the same score to clinch promotion to the old First Division in 1981, the 5-1 win over Leeds on the first day of that first campaign in the top flight - they are all safely locked away, never to escape my increasingly sieve-like memory. More recent memorable success include the unbearable 4-2 victory against Hull, the wonderful 1-0 win at the Cardiff City Stadium, and of course, the freshest of all - the play-off final success over Reading at Wembley last May. In truth, these are the headline matches; I could add dozens of victories to the list. You know the ones, the kind that are made all the sweeter by the opposition, the occasion, or just the brilliance of the display. But one of the most satisfying successes I have enjoyed watching the Swans over the past three-

and-a-half decades, was the most recent here at the Liberty Stadium - the 2-0 win against Stoke City. When the final whistle blew, I was absolutely ecstatic. I have seldom greeted a Swans win with such delight. I was almost bursting with pride at the way every single player had performed. For me, if any display summed up what this current Swansea City side is all about, then this was it.

Many people have questioned how the Swans would fare this season against the Premier League's big boys - but they weren't just talking about the likes of Manchester United, City, Chelsea, Arsenal and Liverpool. There were real concerns about how the Swans' passing game and perceived lack of stature would fare against the physical giants of the Premier League. Although Stoke may protest against their reputation as a

physical, direct side, there is no doubt that their approach at the Liberty was, shall we say, on the muscular side.

Now don't get me wrong, if that's what gets you



“Ever since the Swans won the play-off final, people have been holding Stoke up as the ideal example of a club we should try to emulate”

results, then good luck to you. Ever since the Swans won the play-off final, people have been holding Stoke up as the ideal example of a club we should try to emulate.

And they are an excellent example. Since being promoted to the top flight, they have established themselves as a solid Premier League outfit, reached an FA Cup Final and qualified for Europe.

If the Swans can match that kind of success over the next few seasons, I think it's fair to say we would all be delighted. But I would prefer we did it Brendan's way on the pitch, rather than Tony Pulis' way.

The way the two teams played the match here at the Liberty couldn't have been more different.

During the run up to the match much was made of the physical difference in size between the two teams – two players being highlighted in particular.

Stoke boast the second tallest player in the Premier League in 6ft 7ins Peter Crouch, while the Swans have the joint shortest player in the division – Nathan Dyer at 5ft 5ins.

In fact, the Swans have three of the ten shortest players in the league – Dyer, Leon Britton and Joe Allen.

But, if you'll excuse the pun, those three players, and the rest of the Swans team, stood head and shoulders above their opponents in the Stoke side. It was wonderful to watch them not just compete physically with Stoke's players, but to dominate them with their speed, skill, intelligence, imagination and

work rate. At times, they literally ran rings around their opponents. I don't like picking certain players out above others, but because of their size compared to some of the Stoke players – Britton, Allen and Dyer, particularly stood out. But it's not all just pretty passing and fancy footwork from these three, they can look after themselves too.

Nathan Dyer has to be one of the bravest footballers in the country. Courage on a football field is normally associated with centre-halves and centre forwards, heads swathed in blood-soaked bandages, “putting their heads in where it hurts”.

But Dyer's valour lies in his willingness to take players on at the risk of sometimes losing the ball, and at great threat to his personal safety.

The speedy winger has come in for some fearful physical stick since coming to the Liberty as defenders struggle to contain him legally. One challenge in the Stoke match threatened to slice him in half.

But no matter how many times, or how

hard, he gets kicked, he seems to bounce back up, dust himself down and set off on another run with little regard for his own welfare or the reputation of the defender he is terrorising.

Joe Allen has also proved there is plenty of steel to go with his skill and passing ability.

The Narberth product is not one for backing down from a

confrontation – just ask former Cardiff striker Michael Chopra, or more recently Wolves after he bared his



teeth at Molineux last Saturday when he was on the receiving end of a particularly nasty challenge.

And then there's Britton, who goes about his work quietly, but incredibly busily, never afraid to put his foot in and break up opposition attacks and then countering them by starting his own team's replies with almost faultless distribution.

If anyone was expecting those three, or the rest of the Swansea side, to wilt under Stoke's physical presence, then they were emphatically proved wrong. As Chris Wathan's report in the Western Mail put it: “It's never about the size of the dog in the fight, it's about the size of the fight in the dog. And in beating Stoke City,

Swansea took a big bite out of the critics who questioned whether they were tough enough for the top-flight.”

But it wasn't just the fact that a good little 'un can still put one over on a good big 'un, that made this victory so enjoyable, it was also a victory for football over physicality.

Brendan Rodgers has put his faith in playing the game “the right way”, and if there was ever a performance to vindicate his faith, then this was it. Long may it continue.

Come on you Swans!



match report... wolves 2-2 swansea Saturday 22 October 2011

team sheet

WOLVES: Hennessey, Stearman, Berra, Johnson, Ward, Henry, O'Hara, Jarvis (Guedioura, 67), Hammill (Miliyas, 67), Ebanks-Blake (Vokes, 83), Doyle
SWANS: Vorm, Rangel, Monk, Williams, Taylor, Allen, Gower (Moras, 85), Britton (Orlandi, 74), Dyer (Routledge, 83), Sinclair, Graham

Attendance: 25,216 **Referee:** Michael Oliver

match stats

Shots: Wolves 23 Swans 15

Shots on target: Wolves 14 Swans 10

Corners: Wolves 8 Swans 13

Possession: Wolves 47% Swans 53%

Passes/Completion rate: Wolves 344 (80%) Swans 418 (83%)

Fouls: Wolves 13 Swans 11

Total distance covered: Wolves 104384m Swans 107633m

newsflash

Brendan Rodgers made one change to the side that lost at Norwich, as Mark Gower replaced Wayne Routledge in midfield.

For the visitors, former Swans keeper Dorus de Vries took his place on the bench, as Mick McCarthy gave striker Sylvan Ebanks-Blake his first Premier League start of the season alongside Kevin Doyle in attack.

key moments

1 minute: The home side create the first chance of the game as Karl Henry fires in a shot from 25 yards that Michel Vorm parries away

10 minutes: Swansea respond well as Joe Allen lines up a shot from outside the box that Hennessey has to tip over the bar

10 minutes: The Swans create another chance as Rangel's right wing cross is stabbed narrowly wide at the near post by Danny Graham

20 minutes: It was now end to end stuff at Molineux as first Jarvis saw a shot blocked by Rangel, then Jamie O'Hara fired a half volley that was well kept out by Vorm

24 minutes, GOAL: The Swans take a deserved lead as Gower chips a delightful ball into the path of Danny Graham and the striker takes one touch before coolly slotting the ball past Hennessey

25 minutes: The home side come close to getting an immediate equaliser when Hammill's free kick was superbly tipped over by Vorm

34 minutes, GOAL: The visitors double their advantage when Rangel sets Graham free down the right and he crosses low for Joe Allen to tuck the ball home from six yards

44 minutes: Swansea come close to a third when

44 **SWANS**





Sinclair cuts in from the left to fire a stinging effort that is well saved by the keeper

Half time: Wolves 0-2 Swansea

52 minutes: As the home side look to get back into the game, Jarvis heads well wide from Adam Hammill's cross

59 minutes: The Swans come close to make it three when Rangel's excellent cross picked out Sinclair but his left footed effort was well blocked by Hennessey

84 minutes, GOAL: Wolves manage to pull one back when a corner isn't cleared and Roger Johnson's shot is parried by Vorm and Doyle tucks home the rebound

86 minutes, GOAL: Molineux erupts as Jamie O'Hara gets on the end of a low cross to smash the ball high into the net

90 minutes: By now the Swans were hanging on and they nearly lost it when Nemad Milijas struck from 30 yards but he saw his shot fly just wide of Vorm's right hand post

Man of the match:

man of the match

Scott Sinclair (the tricky winger caused problems for Richard Stearman all afternoon as he went on a series of mazy runs and nearly scored with a rasping volley in the first half)

the final word

Wolves boss Mick McCarthy: "It was a great point for us and I'm delighted. But we were really, really lucky. "We've played a lot better than that in previous games and got nothing, but the players kept going and got a result for themselves and for the club."

Swans boss Brendan Rodgers: "We were outstanding today. I thought we controlled the game with and without the ball, but to lose it like we did is difficult to take.

"For 80-odd minutes it was a perfect away performance, but it's obviously disappointing after playing that well and not picking up all three points.

"But it's our first point away from home and our performance was fantastic."



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swansea city football in the community



CREATING
chances



Nandos joint support for this season's Junior fan Club, The Cygnets, has helped us provide one of the best range of benefits ever for our members...and it's not too late to take advantage. Nando's manager Kirsty Williams came along to Football in the Community's Box 21 recently and proudly shows off her limited edition medal, commissioned especially to celebrate our rise to the Premier League and only available via the Cygnet Club. Fill in the membership form in the programme, call into the club shop for an application form or call us, on 01792 616607. And members, don't forget, your membership package gives you a super offer in Wind Street, Swansea Nandos and their freshly prepared chicken dishes are a good healthy choice when eating out. (You may well bump into several Swans players who regularly call in too!).



Pictured are Swansea City Bravehearts receiving a cheque for £500 from Paul Gallagher and Nigel Pickard of the Killay over 40's football team. Mr Gallagher commented; "It's good to be able to support such a great cause. We play Swansea City All Stars on an annual basis at Dunvant RFC and, due to a committed group of football players and fund raising staff, this year we've been able to hand Wales Air Ambulance and the Special Care Baby unit at Singleton Hospital identical cheques". Also in the picture is ex Vetch field favourite Nigel Stevenson, who won the star raffle of a mountain bike.

SUPPORTED BY



Birthday Gallery

All the players and staff at Swansea City FC would like to wish Carys Charles and Alex Thomas a very Happy Birthday.



Issue Five

CYRIL THE SWAN'S HALF TIME TEASERS!

Created by Cyril the Swan and www.roundheadillustration.weebly.com

CYRIL'S LOOKALIKES

A WINDSWEEP SHEEP

NEWCASTLE UNITED'S FABRICIO COLOCCINI

BLAST FROM THE PAST

1. Can you name the player?
2. The match it took place?
3. Can you name the year?

CYRIL'S TRICKY TEASER

Which is the only current team in the Premier League that have never been relegated from the top flight?

A. Manchester United
B. Aston Villa
C. Wigan Athletic

ANSWER. _____

Last Issue's Crossword Solution:

Useless football knowledge Lesson 4

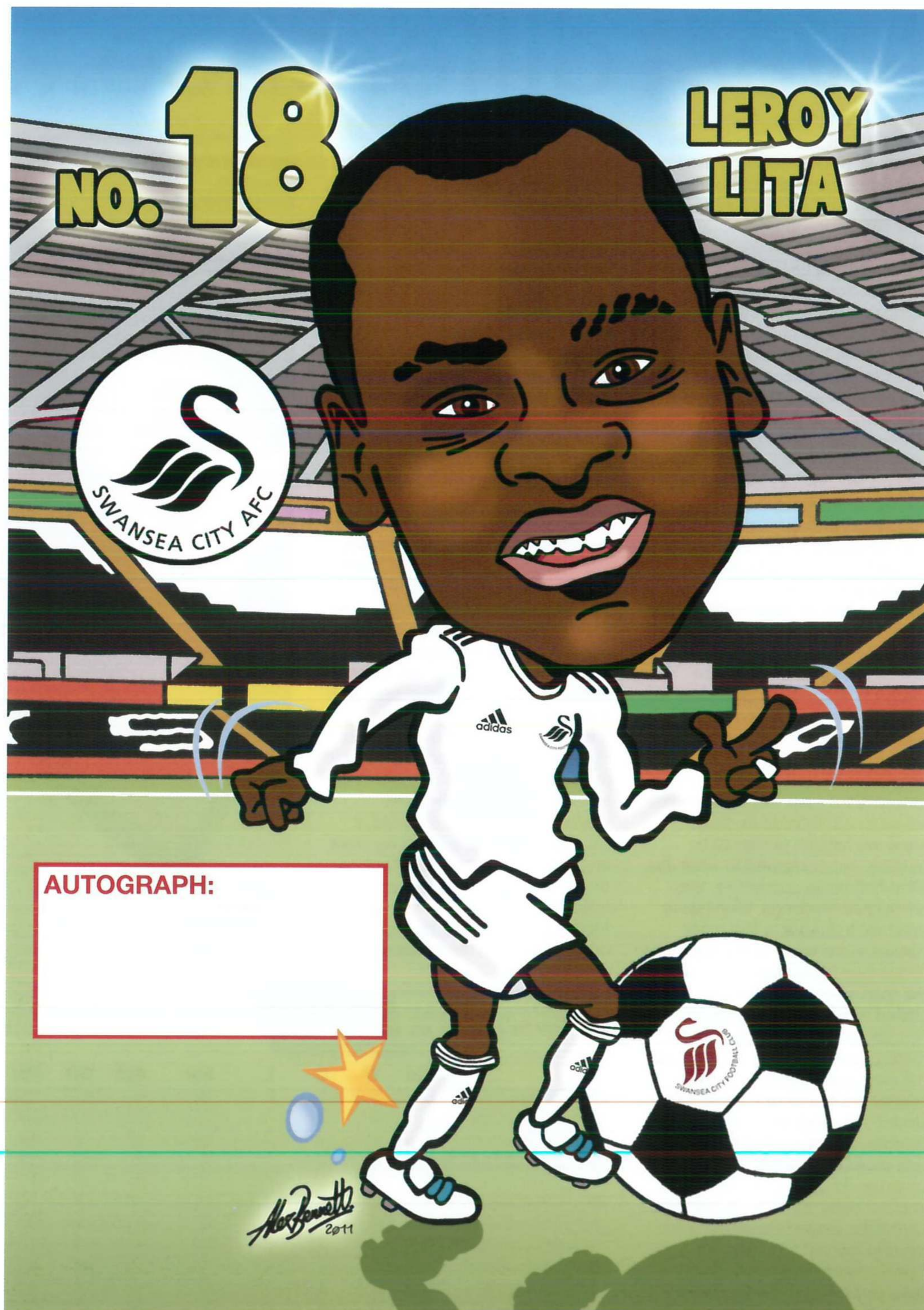
French legend Zinedine Zidane was never caught offside in his career.

Last Issue's Answers:

Blast from the Past: 1. The year was 2006. 2. The match was the World Cup Final between France and Italy. 3. The two players involved were Marco Materazzi and Zinedine Zidane.

Cyril's Tricky Teaser: **B. Aston Villa** was the former Liverpool manager who said: "There are two great teams on Merseyside, Liverpool and Liverpool Reserves".

CYRIL'S PREDICTION: SWANS 2 - BOLTON WANDERERS 1



Swansea City
Cygnets

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PRINCIPALITY



Join the
**Official
SWANSEA CITY**

Junior Fan Club
Ages 0-15

Membership
application

Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Tel: _____

Mobile: _____

School: _____

Favourite Player: _____

Email: _____

I am happy for the above child to be a Cygnet member for 2011/2012 and agree to abide by the club's decisions on matters relating to cygnet membership.

I understand that some offers have conditions attached.

Signed: _____

Parent/guardian

Please enclosed a cheque for
£10 made out to: SCFITC
Liberty Stadium,
Landore, Swansea.
SA1 2FA



In what has been a busy period for the club's Under-18s, Head of Youth Football Tony Pennock reflects on some mixed results for the club's youngsters

SWANSEA CITY - YOUTH ALLIANCE U18 SOUTH WEST			
Sat Aug 6	Exeter City	H	1-1
Sat Aug 20	Cheltenham Town	H	2-0
Sat Aug 27	A.F.C. Bournemouth	H	2-1
Sat Sep 3	Torquay United	A	1-0
Sat Sep 17	Swindon Town (St Helens)	H	0-2
Sat Oct 1	Yeovil Town	A	0-0
Sat Oct 8	Plymouth (Cup)	H	3-0
Sat Oct 15 (St Helens)	Yeovil (Cup)	H	0-1
Sat Oct 22	Torquay (Cup)	A	2-2
Sat Oct 29	Bristol Rovers	A	CUP
Sat Nov 5	Exeter	H	CUP
Sat Nov 19	Hereford United (St Helens)	H	
Sat Nov 26			
Sat Dec 3			CUP 2
Sat Dec 10	Bristol Rovers	A	
Sat Dec 17	Plymouth Argyle (St Helens)	H	
Sat Jan 7	Oxford United	A	
Sat Jan 14	A.F.C. Bournemouth	A	
Sat Jan 21			CUP 3
Sat Jan 28	Torquay United	H	
Sat Feb 4	Swindon Town	A	
Sat Feb 11	Yeovil Town (St Helens)	H	
Sat Feb 18			CUP 4
Sat Feb 25	Hereford United	A	
Sat Mar 3	Bristol Rovers	H	
Sat Mar 17	Plymouth Argyle	A	
Sat Mar 24	Oxford United	H	
Sat Mar 31	Exeter City	A	
Sat Apr 21	Cheltenham Town	A	

All home games 11am unless stated.

a vast difference...

THE YOUTH Team have had four matches since my last programme notes and during these fixtures we have seen a vast difference in performance levels.

In our opening League Cup group match at home to Plymouth, we produced an excellent team performance which resulted in a comfortable 3-0 victory for us. We defended well throughout and also looked far more clinical in front of goal which was pleasing. This, however, was followed up with an unacceptable home defeat against Yeovil Town. We started brightly and missed three one on one opportunities in the first half along with numerous other chances and the performance of the team deteriorated as did our opportunities as Yeovil scored with ten minutes left to take the points. As staff, we felt that as with the disappointing home defeat to Swindon, that some players are beginning to think they are better than they actually are and that they maybe feel they deserve better. We constantly remind them how fortunate they are, in terms of what we as a club provide for them. I know we haven't got fantastic facilities but compared to what Joe Allen had as an apprentice, they are treated like kings. With this in mind we trained at a few other venues in the week in the hope that one or two had a fast reality check. We then travelled to Torquay United with a very young team. Torquay are always bigger and more physical than us and this was the case last Thursday. Due to injuries we started the game with Under-15s goalkeeper Dan Eddolls, who acquitted himself well and could do nothing with the two unfortunate own goals we scored in a 2-2 draw. Kyle Copp, another Under-15, played the whole second half as did Under-16 Connor Roberts. We fielded our third Under-15 of the afternoon when Owain Jones came on for the

last 15 minutes. This was an excellent performance considering the age of my team and I was extremely proud of all the team. However, again it was our failure to convert opportunities that frustrated the staff present. Last Sunday we began our defence of the FAW Youth Cup with a difficult away match at Cambrian & Clydach Vale FC. With no goalkeeper available due to injuries and FAW rules, captain Josh Pike did a sterling job and kept a well-deserved clean sheet in a 4-0 victory. Again, first half chances went begging but we converted three in the second half to book our place in the last 16. We fielded an extremely strong squad on the day and young pros Jordan Smith, Ben Davies, Kurtis March and Gwion Edwards were a pleasure to have with us and set an excellent standard which my apprentices must replicate to progress. Gwion scored two and Jordan scored with a wonder strike from 20 yards. If there was one part of our recent matches that needs addressing it is the failure to convert chances. This is not only down to the front players, but all those involved at set pieces. This is an area we work on constantly and will continue to do so to improve our conversion rate. Please back the lads as you have done all season; the atmosphere

against Stoke was fantastic and hopefully it will be the same this afternoon.
Best wishes, Tony



THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE

		Pld	W	D	L	For	Agt	GD	Pts
1	Bristol Rov	6	5	1	0	18	6	+12	16
2	Exeter City	7	3	4	0	23	12	+11	13
3	Swindon T	7	4	1	2	14	12	+2	13
4	Swansea City	6	3	2	1	6	4	+2	11
5	Plymouth	6	3	1	2	10	8	+2	10
6	Cheltenham T	7	3	1	3	8	10	-2	10
7	Oxford United	7	2	3	2	8	9	-1	9
8	Bournemouth	6	2	1	3	10	9	+1	7
9	Yeovil Town	6	1	1	4	15	15	0	4
10	Torquay U	6	1	1	4	11	15	-4	4
11	Hereford U	6	0	0	6	3	26	-23	0

the hard work continues...

Since the last home game against Stoke City, our young Swans have played a number of games and Centre of Excellence Co-ordinator Anthony Avo tells us how they have fared...

SINCE MY LAST programme notes, it has been a busy period for a number of our Centre of Excellence teams. It's been two

Youth Team Player Profile: Scott Tancock

DOB: 29/12/93

Position: Centre-half

Previous clubs:

Landore, Cardiff

Favourite team (apart from Swans): Manchester United, Barcelona

Favourite player: John Terry

Favourite music: RnB, Hip Hop, Garage

Favourite food: Vesuvio's chicken pasta, Indian

Interest outside sport:

Spending time with family and friends

showed fantastic movement to profit from clever wing play from Daniel Hawkins and he superbly fired into the top corner from just inside the box. Our goalkeeper made a brave save from a one on one situation as Swindon tried to force their way back into the game and they eventually pulled a goal back just before the break. Jack Hodges scored a brace, one of which was a fantastic volley from outside the box and he was unfortunate to have what would have been a hat-trick ruled out for offside as the young Swans ended the game strongly.

This was an excellent team performance that was pleasing on the eye and Cameron Evans, Lewis Jones, Jake Nichols, Owen Evans and Mason Thomas-Jones all had fine games. Daniel Williams, however, deserves a special mention for his fantastic work ethic in transition; mixed with great technical ability and a tactical maturity that enhanced his game. The following week the Under-11s played away at Torquay United and this was another good performance

from the boys. Torquay were a very physical side in a game that was played on a difficult pitch, but the individual and team performances were a real bonus. Individually, Aleric Jones saw his mazy dribble result in him waltz past several defenders before beating the goalkeeper and within minutes Aleric then unleashed an unstoppable shot from 25 yards to once again beat the keeper. Also, there were good performances from Owen Evans, Daniel Hawkins and Ceirion Jones that sealed a good day's work.

The Under-14s were also at home and up against Torquay. And, yet again, performance was the key word in a good display of playing out from the back which is what we encourage our players to do. They had the confidence to receive the ball from the goalkeeper and each time we created space and opportunities in which we outplayed our opponents. In the first fifteen minutes alone we had at least five chances to put the game beyond them but like most games of this type, the team who are in



control will not always get their just rewards. And, against the run of play, Torquay took the lead with a scrappy goal when the defence failed to clear their lines. However, the young Swans eventually saw their excellent performance pay off with an equaliser from Ben Aldred. I know that I always say that results don't matter, but when you play so well then there should be a reward of a victory. At this age, although winning is not the issue, it's when they get older that they have to have a winning mentality. Try telling a player at any sport that winning is not important but ultimately it's the winners that make it in the end. Our job is to develop their technical and tactical ability; the winning mentality should be in their own make-up.

weeks since we entertained Swindon Town and the Under-11s continued their fine form against a strong Robins outfit.

Having worked hard tactically in training over the last few weeks at defending without the ball, as well as being disciplined and patient, they showed a tactical maturity to frustrate Swindon time and time again and forcing countless errors which they then exploited to create chance after chance. After going close several times it was Cameron Evans who got the breakthrough goal. Mason Jones-Thomas



It was a proud moment for Rhun Jones and his family as Swans defender Alan Tate congratulated him on signing for the club's CofE Under-15 squad at the Liberty Stadium.

Liverpool

Saturday 5th November 2011 3pm

Address: Anfield Road, Liverpool, L4 0TH

Telephone: 0151 260 1433

Web Site: www.liverpoolfc.tv

What's It Like?

Walking up to Anfield, it doesn't look too impressive but inside it's amazing. The famous Kop terrace is gone, replaced by a huge stand. The other end, the Anfield Road Stand, part of which is where 2,000 away fans are, is the newest stand. Get in there for the fans singing 'You'll Never Walk Alone' with the red and white scarves and flags held high across the Kop. The atmosphere is great, so enjoy the experience.

Things to look out for at Anfield are the Bill Shankly Gates, with the legendary phrase 'You'll Never Walk Alone' on them. There's also a statue of him near the club shop and along Anfield Road there is the memorial to the victims of the Hillsborough disaster. The facilities within the stand are not bad. There's a Ladbrokes booth and a wide variety of burgers, hot dogs and pies, including 'Scouse Pies'. Going to Anfield is a cracking day out as the stadium is one of the most iconic venues in world football.

Visiting Liverpool

The Echo Arena hosts Lee Evans the Wednesday, Thursday & Friday before the game. The Monday after is WWE Raw and Tuesday has WWE Smackdown.

Over the weekend (4-6 November), there's the 'Age of the Dinosaur' exhibition at the Natural History Museum. At the Reds Gallery of the Bluecoats, there are two free exhibitions. The first of which, 'We Never Walked Alone', shows iconic LFC images, commissioned pieces and photographs by Steve Hale, who followed the Reds for over 30 years. The second exhibition traces the inspiration, humour and celebrations of Liverpool FC's fans and the role they've played in the success of the club over the decades.

On the Friday night at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall is 'Mozart by Candlelight', with tickets from £18-28.50. On Bonfire Night, three of the city's parks (Sefton, Newsham and Walton Hall Park) will be lit up in spectacular displays of fireworks to the theme of 'Feel Good Factor' music, starting at 7.30pm for 20 minutes.

The city of Liverpool means 'The Beatles', and The Beatles Story at Albert Dock is a tour through their lives, with memorabilia and input from friends and family. The Cavern Club on Mathew Street is where the Beatles began, where a lunchtime beer or live



music in the evening is on offer. The childhood homes of John Lennon and Sir Paul McCartney, Mendips and 20 Forthlin Road in Allerton, are now National Trust properties.

Liverpool has one of the largest collections of museums outside London. The new Museum of Liverpool is the largest newly built national museum in Britain at the Pier Head. Many other museums are around Albert Dock, such as the Merseyside Maritime Museum, where you can find out about the companies, people and ships connected to the port. The International Slavery Museum tells tales of bravery and rebellion among the enslaved. World Museum Liverpool has historic treasures from around the world, an aquarium, bug house and planetarium and at The World of Glass in St. Helens, you can learn all about glass blowing and the history of glass making in the area.

Liverpool has many great city art galleries and free art exhibitions. The Liverpool Walker Art Gallery is the national gallery of the North, housing works by Hockney, Degas, Turner and Rembrandt. Tate Liverpool at Albert Dock, housed in a stunning Grade 1 listed converted warehouse that stages lots of fantastic free as well as paid-for art exhibitions featuring work by everyone from Tracey Emin to Picasso.

Pubs and Grub

The Arkles (L4 0TJ) is the away fans pub, get there early or it will be full and queues of people waiting to get in. The 'Flat Iron' (L4 0SZ), is a 5 minute walk away. Although it's mostly full of Liverpool fans, the bars are mixed and all should be very friendly and there's also a good chippy opposite. To find this pub, turn left at the junction where Arkles is (with Anfield to your right) down Anfield Road. Head away from Anfield and the pub is on the right. Otherwise, alcohol is available inside the stadium.

Parking & Train

There are two ways to Anfield, through mid Wales (180 miles) and motorways (237 miles) and both take about the same amount of time. If you arrive by 1pm, street parking can be found. If not, park in the streets around Goodison and walk across Stanley Park to Anfield, or park in a secure parking area at Goodison (£10). Parking at The Dockers Club (L6 0BB) is £5, home of Liverpool County Premier Division side Waterloo Dock, a 15 minute walk away. By Train: Kirkdale station is under a mile away, turn right and cross the railway bridge, to the Melrose Abbey pub, (L4 3TE). Walk alongside the pub and carry on, passing the Elm Tree pub (L4 4LZ). Follow the road around the right hand bend and turn left into Bradwell Street. At the end of Bradwell Street, cross the road at the traffic lights and down the road to the left of the Aldi store. At the end of this road you see Stanley Park in front. Cross Walton Lane, enter Stanley Park, follow the path through the park (keep to the right), and that comes out at Anfield Road's away end.

The way from the city centre by public transport is the Merseyrail Northern Line to Sandhills, where the special Soccerbuses run a couple of hours before and after games and drops you nearby. Trains can be caught from Liverpool Central and Moorfields. If buying your train tickets in Liverpool, ask for a return to Anfield not to Sandhills, as the train ticket is valid for the Soccerbus. Both Sandhills & Kirkdale stations can be reached from Liverpool Lime Street to Liverpool Central, then changing for Kirkdale. Taxis from Lime Street are about £6. The bus station is a 7 minute walk and well signposted. Buses 17a 17b 17c or the 26 take 25 minutes and drop you right outside the ground for about £1.

reserves back to winning ways...

FOLLOWING DISAPPOINTING back-to-back defeats against Sunderland and Newcastle, Alan Curtis' side have now gone two matches unbeaten after positive displays against both Arsenal and Fulham.

At the start of the month the Swans second-string headed to north London and Barnet's Underhill Stadium to take on a youthful Arsenal side.

After the Gunners had twice taken the lead, courtesy of goals from Luke Freeman and Chuks Aneke, Kurtis March got the first Swans equaliser, before Stephen Dobbie stepped up to earn the visitors a point with a superb free-kick deep into stoppage time.

Curtis and his team had to wait another three weeks before they were next in action, as they welcomed Fulham to Parc y Scarlets on a wet and windy evening in Llanelli.

And the home side returned to winning ways, playing some attractive football throughout despite the tricky conditions that threatened to ruin the spectacle.

The Swans sealed the points on the stroke of half-time when Craig Beattie did well to beat two players on the edge of the box before firing low into the bottom corner.

"I thought we played really well in the first half," said Curt. "We got the goal we thoroughly deserved and we

maybe should have gone into half-time a couple of goals up.

"We passed the ball well and dominated possession, but it's always nice to get a win and it keeps the run going." Despite a resolute display from Fulham in the second period – which included a penalty save from Gerhard Tremmel – the home side held on for all three points as they sit mid-table in the Barclays Premier Reserve League South.

However, the stand out player on the night was Swans youngster Gwion Edwards, who was a constant thorn in the Fulham defence with his pace and ability to take on the full-backs.

And Curtis had nothing but praise for the 18-year-old, who has been a regular in the reserve side this season.

"I thought he was fantastic," he said. "I would have liked to have taken him off so he could get a clap from the crowd, but he was our best player and the one person who looked capable of opening them up.

Edwards is currently in his first year as a professional and admits the experience so far has been a rewarding one.

"You're playing with and against better players and you can only learn from the first team players as well.

"It was a good performance. We worked hard and defended well at the end to cap a good team performance."

The reserves are back in action on Tuesday night when they make the long trip to East Anglia to take on Norwich City, before returning to action at Parc y Scarlets with back-to-back home games against West Bromwich Albion and Wolves.

Prices have been confirmed as £10 for all adults, £5 concessions. All tickets are available from Parc y Scarlets on the day or in advance online at www.scarlets.talent-sport.co.uk

barclays premier reserve league fixtures

Date	Opponents	H/A	Venue	ko	Res
Wed Aug 17	Bolton Wanderers	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	2-1
Thu Aug 25	Manchester United	A	Altrincham FC	7pm	0-6
Wed Aug 31	Liverpool	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	2-1
Tue Sep 13	Sunderland	A	Academy of Light	2pm	0-2
Wed Sep 28	Newcastle United	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	3-5
Mon Oct 3	Arsenal	A	Barnet FC	7pm	2-2
Mon Oct 17	Fulham	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	1-0
Tue Nov 1	Norwich City	A	Carrow Road	7pm	
Mon Nov 7	West Brom	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	
Mon Nov 14	Wolves	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	
Mon Nov 21	Chelsea	A	Cobham TG	2pm	
Tue Dec 6	Aston Villa	A	Hinkley United	7pm	
Wed Dec 14	Arsenal	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	
Mon Jan 9	Norwich City	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	
Tue Jan 24	West Brom	A	WBA TG	1pm	
Mon Feb 13	Chelsea	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	
Tue Feb 21	Wolves	A	AFC Telford Utd	7pm	
Mon Feb 27	Aston Villa	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	
Tue Mar 13	Fulham	A	Motspur Park	2pm	
Mon Mar 19	Blackburn Rovers	A	Training Centre	2pm	
Mon Apr 2	Wigan Athletic	H	Parc y Scarlets	7pm	
Tue Apr 10	Everton	A	Finch Farm TG	2pm	

Gwion Edwards



hit the road jack with ugo vallerio

ITS AN AGE since our last home game when we outplayed a very physical Stoke side but it was a great performance to boot.

An international break followed and then we had the first of two away games in a row which was at Carrow Road. Those of us who wanted luxury tried a flight that was cancelled but four coachloads of us left Swansea at 6am for the trek across the country; some still sleeping as they got on the coaches!!

Apart from a quiz to pass the time and a stop at Reading services, we had a good journey up to Norwich, reaching our refreshment stop by about 12.30pm where a barbecue was waiting for the hungry ones among us. Very pleasant indeed.

An escort to the ground was given by the police, though we were parked a good 10 minutes walk up a hill!!

The 1200 or so Swans fans were in good voice as usual but it was one of those days on the pitch.

The away end is fitted into a corner of the ground and the facilities are very good in fairness. The stewarding was friendly and the programme was a pricey one at £3.50 and was more of a book than a magazine. The locals I think enjoyed the banter with the Jack Army and there were no problems anywhere.

With the final whistle blown we trudged back to the coaches wondering why the Swans had not been up to speed.

We managed to be on the main road out of Norwich by 6.30pm; the traffic was bad and we reached Swansea around midnight. A long day!

Next away

Liverpool Saturday November 5th

Departs Liberty 7.30am

NO PARKING AT THE LIBERTY

Members £19

Non Members £23

Booking times at the pod

Saturday 29th October 12.30pm to 2pm

Monday 31st October 3pm to 6pm

Tuesday 1st November 3pm to 6pm

Cash Only

Strictly no alcohol

nothing but the truth...

Height: 5' 5"

Tea or Coffee? Coffee

Nickname? Nath or Dizzle

Blonde or brunette? Brunette

Which female makes your pulse race?

Other than my girlfriend, Meagan Good

today the
spotlight is on

nathan dyer

If you weren't a footballer

what would you be? A singer, not that I can sing anyway!

Holiday destination? Jamaica

Proudest moment? Promotion to the Premier League

Favourite team growing up? Manchester United

Of all the players you have played with down the years,

who is the best one you have played with? Gareth Bale

and Adam Johnson

Who were your heroes when you were growing up? Mum

and Dad

Best player you have played against? David Silva

Best thing to do in your spare time? Playstation and

cinema

Favourite drink? Ting (Jamaican drink)

Food? Chicken, rice and peas

Film? Next Friday

Car? Lambo

Career high so far?

Promotion to Premier League

Career low? The Premier League

saying I am statistically smaller than

Leon Britton, which is a lie!

Chinese or Indian? Chinese

Best ground played at? The Emirates

Best friend in football? I have a few!

If you could invite anyone round for dinner, dead or alive,

who would it be? Karl Pilkington, Muhammad Ali and Kevin

Hart

Best goal you've scored? Against Portsmouth in the FA

Cup

Who do you room with on away trips? Ashley Williams (he

brings two tubs of hair gel



dish the dirt on your teammates?

Best dressed? Kemy Agustien

Worst dressed? Craig Beattie (awful gear), Mark Gower, doesn't do himself any favours!

Longest in the shower? Other than me, Leroy Lita

Best hairstyle? Stephen Dobbie, when he used to have his mohawk

Worst hairstyle? Tom Butler, he's hanging on to it!

Biggest joker? David Cotterill

Biggest poseur? Andrea Orlandi

Most intelligent? Joe Allen

Least intelligent? Neil Taylor

dyer pleased with start

After showing their battling qualities against Stoke City in the last home game at the Liberty, Nathan Dyer believes the Swans have proved they are not just a pretty, passing outfit.

Much was made of Stoke's direct style and height advantage in the build up to the clash, but the Swans coped well with the physical prowess of Tony Pulis' side, with Brendan Rodgers hailing the steely edge his team showed.

And the flying winger believes the Swans are starting to flex their muscles in the top flight.

"Each game has been a different test for us, but I think we have coped well so far," said Dyer. "For the last home game against Stoke we had to make sure we didn't allow them to play to their threats.

"We did very well in that respect, and showed that we are not just a team that passes the ball about and plays what people call pretty football.

"It was a very good result and performance from us - we need to make sure we continue to do that."

Dyer's efforts last season saw him voted the Supporters' Player of the Year, and he has maintained his high standard in the top flight.

"I've been pleased with how I've settled into the Premier League," he admitted.

"I've always wanted to play in the Premier League, and now we are doing that week in week out.

"Sometimes you come away from a game thinking 'wow, I played against a top, top player today', but most of the time you are focused on doing your best for the team and club.

"It is always nice to hear praise from anyone in the game, but the important thing is keeping your standards at the highest they can be."





a swan-song story in

Mark Pitman takes a look at the Welsh Premier League's former Swans and their place in the club's history.

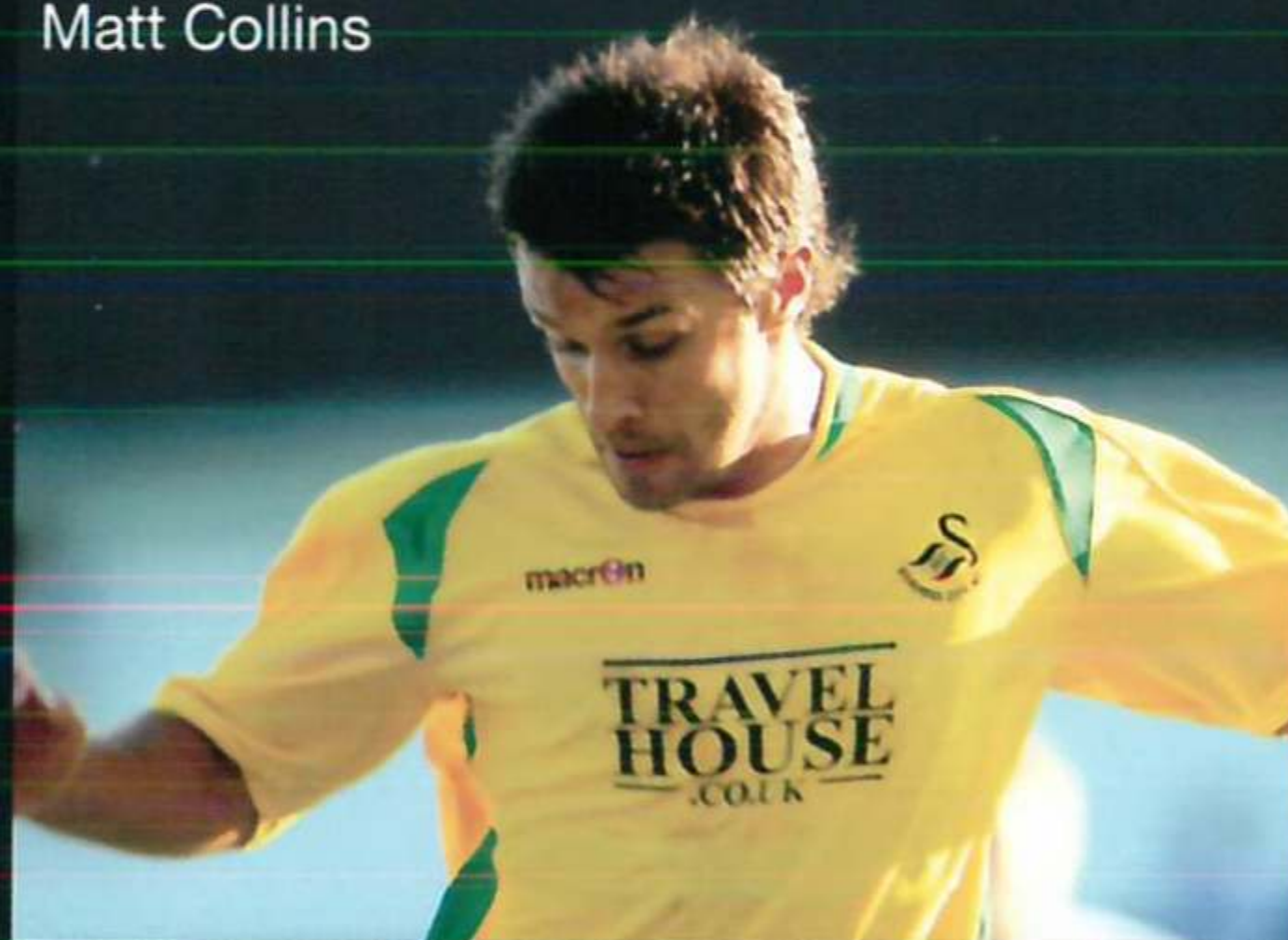
THE STORY OF Swansea City's rise to the promised land of the Premier League has centred around the rags to riches fairytale of the last decade. Many fans were there through the bad times and now the good, but a number of players who defined this significant era remain involved in the game and currently represent their respective clubs in the Welsh Premier League. The headline names remain cult figures at the Liberty Stadium, but there are many others who have played a part in the history of the club, and did it at the other end of the Football League.

Veteran Llanelli player-manager Andy Legg

Lee Trundle



Matt Collins



starts the Welsh Premier chain in the rise of Swansea City having turned out for the club back in 1988, and he was joined at the club by his current team-mates Jason Bowen and his current assistant at Stebonheath, Steve Jenkins, who both arrived in 1990 and stayed at the club for a further five years. A famous day at Wembley in 1994 brought the Autoglass Trophy to the club during this era, but promotion and relegation also meant the club went into the second half of the 1990's in the bottom division of the Football League. Current Port Talbot Town duo Leigh De-Vulgt and Gareth Phillips emerged from the club's youth system along with Aberystwyth captain Bari Morgan during this time. The most significant player to come through the ranks however would be Kristian O'Leary. Now playing for Neath, O'Leary remained at the club for fifteen years after making his senior debut in 1995 and made almost 300 Football League appearances. Andrew Mumford, now a central figure in the Afan Lido midfield, arrived at the club from Llanelli in 1999 and stayed until 2004 while Aberystwyth's Michael Howard made over 200 appearances for the Swans in a six-year stint that began in 1998. Their era coincided with a traumatic period in the club's history however, as the well-documented financial problems put the future

of the Swans in serious doubt.

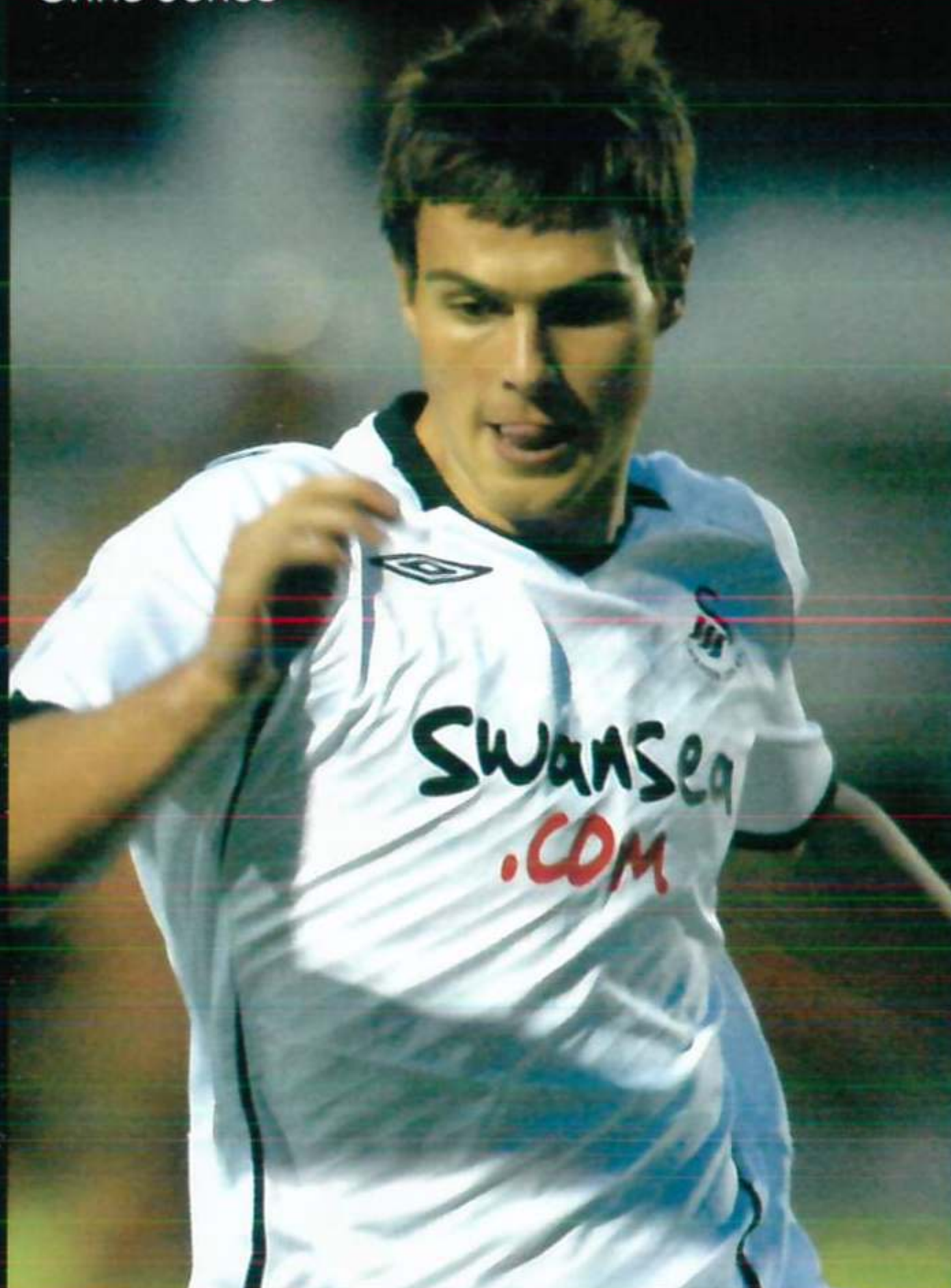
Swansea City emerged from one crisis to become involved in another in 2003, as the club came within 90 minutes of being relegated into non-league football. Howard and O'Leary were part of the starting eleven that defeated Hull at the Vetch to retain their place on the last day of the season, while two current Llanelli regulars in Antonio Corbisiero and Stuart Jones, were sitting on the fringes as they continued to progress through the youth ranks at the club. The club's most significant signing would follow during that summer however, as Lee Trundle, now making the headlines at Neath, arrived at the club

Kris O'Leary



the welsh premier league

Chris Jones



from Wrexham and went on to become a cult hero with 78 league goals in the next four years before his £1million move to Bristol City. Matthew Rees, now also part of the Neath revolution, would prove an important addition to new manager Kenny Jackett's squad in 2004 as he scored the first goal in the Jackett-era but made just three appearances for his hometown club. A period of success would follow for the emerging Swans as a new stadium and three promotions followed during the next decade. The return of Roberto Martinez in 2007 brought with it the emergence of strikers Chad Bond and Kerry Morgan, now of Llanelli and Neath respectively, but neither would make their Football League debuts until the arrival of Paulo Sousa in 2009.

Current Neath duo Chris Jones and Matty Collins also found themselves on the fringes of the senior team under Martinez, the latter earning international honours with Wales during his time at the club. Following Jones'

release in 2009, Bond and Collins also left the club in 2010, but the player to pay the price for Swansea City's promotion to the Premier League was Morgan, who was released during the summer to complete a permanent move to Neath.

The Welsh Premier League has also offered a number of other Swansea City youth products the opportunity to continue their football careers despite not having made the grade at the club. Anthony Finselbach, Daniel Sheehan, Matthew Whatley, Adam Orme, Lee Surman, Matthew Thompson, Nicky Holland and Kieran Howard are just a few who currently represent clubs in the domestic top-flight. There is also a Swans influence in the dugouts across Wales each weekend, as in addition to Legg and Jenkins at Llanelli, Terry Boyle, who signed for the Swans in 1989, is the current manager of Neath and he is assisted by former Swansea City assistant-manager Peter Nicholas. Also, Paul Reid, who played 20 games for the club in 2002, is the

Andy Legg



Michael Howard



current coach at Port Talbot Town.

The rise of Swansea City has now become a national story as the club compete against the biggest and the best, but from Andy Legg's arrival at the Vetch in 1988 to Kerry Morgan's release from the Liberty in 2011, there has been at least one current Welsh Premier League player involved in the unique success story that is Swansea City throughout this time. Some may have made a bigger impression than others, some may have enjoyed more success, but each one has contributed to football's latest fairytale.

Mark Pitman is a Welsh football journalist and blogger. Visit www.markpitman1.com for a full archive or follow him on Twitter (@markpitman1) and on Facebook (1markpitman)

competitions

Shoot

music promotions

WIN WITH NOEL GALLAGHER!

Noel Gallagher's recently released album, "Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds" is his debut as a solo artist and was recorded in London and completed in Los Angeles during 2010 and the first half of 2011. It was co-produced by Noel and David Sardy, with whom Noel has worked previously. It features ten brand new tracks.

Guests on the album include The

Crouch End Festival Chorus and The Wired Strings.

"Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds" is the first new material from Noel Gallagher for three years. Check in with Noel here: www.noelgallagher.com

We have album copies to be won. Simply answer the following question to enter our prize draw.

What football team does Noel support?

- A - Man Utd
- B - Man City
- C - Liverpool

Email your answers to info@swanseacityfc.co.uk

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face in the crowd



OUR happy snapper, Dimitris Legakis, has been out and about capturing the best supporters in the land as part of a special promotion with our friends at Coors. We'll be picking out one fan each game to win a crate of Carling. If it's you, then pop into the stadium next week with a copy of the programme and have a drink on us.

swansea 'til i die

GAME 10 in the Barclays Premier League and it's a division that certainly hasn't disappointed when it comes to seeing the world's best players in action.

Edin Dzeko, David Silva, Robin Van Persie, Fernando Torres... all top class athletes with bags of skill. After years of seeing these guys on television, it's been a pleasure through my role as a match commentator to see these players up close.

Some of the commentary positions this season have been in the lower tiers of stands and much closer to the pitch than in the lower leagues, so I have also been able to fully appreciate the speed of body and mind that these guys have, as well as the power they pack into every tackle.

If I had to pick the three players – non-Swans of course! – who had most impressed, Chelsea captain John Terry would be on my list. Just seeing the extent to which John Terry commanded his territory at Stamford Bridge was an eye-opener. I'd never previously regarded him up there in the country's best, but he oozed class that afternoon and completely changed my opinion.

Another opinion changer was Yaya Toure of Manchester City. I'd never understood why he was paid the sums he reportedly is... until I saw him at work. On and off the ball he was immense. Big strides got him up



and down the pitch and a big heart got him into tackles and out the other side... with the ball at his feet each time.

But, the best so far? It's still Sergio Aguero. Just 30 minutes were needed for me to form such high regard. He had everything – speed, tricks, passes, awareness and THAT 30 yard shot!

My Swansea Sound commentaries will give me further chances to see these great players as the campaign goes on. Why not tune in and join me next time you can't make a game? Home or away we have every match on 1170MW, with build up to the weekend fixture every Friday night on Swansea Till I Die.

That show broadcasts between 6pm and 7pm, and is also available via www.swanseasound.co.uk for those living outside the broadcast area.

loan watch

BEATTIE JOINS WATFORD ON LOAN

Craig Beattie has joined Championship side Watford on loan until January.

The striker has yet to make a Premier League appearance this season after picking up an ankle injury. But having made his comeback with the Reserves recently, Beattie has dropped down a level in search of some first team action.

"I've met the coaches and it seems a nice club," said Beattie. "The ankle injury I picked up recently set me back a bit, but now I'm feeling fit and raring to go.

"I just need some game time, some action, and I'm looking forward to the challenge at Watford.

"I want to play first team football again and I will be doing my best to help the Hornets as much as I can during the loan spell."

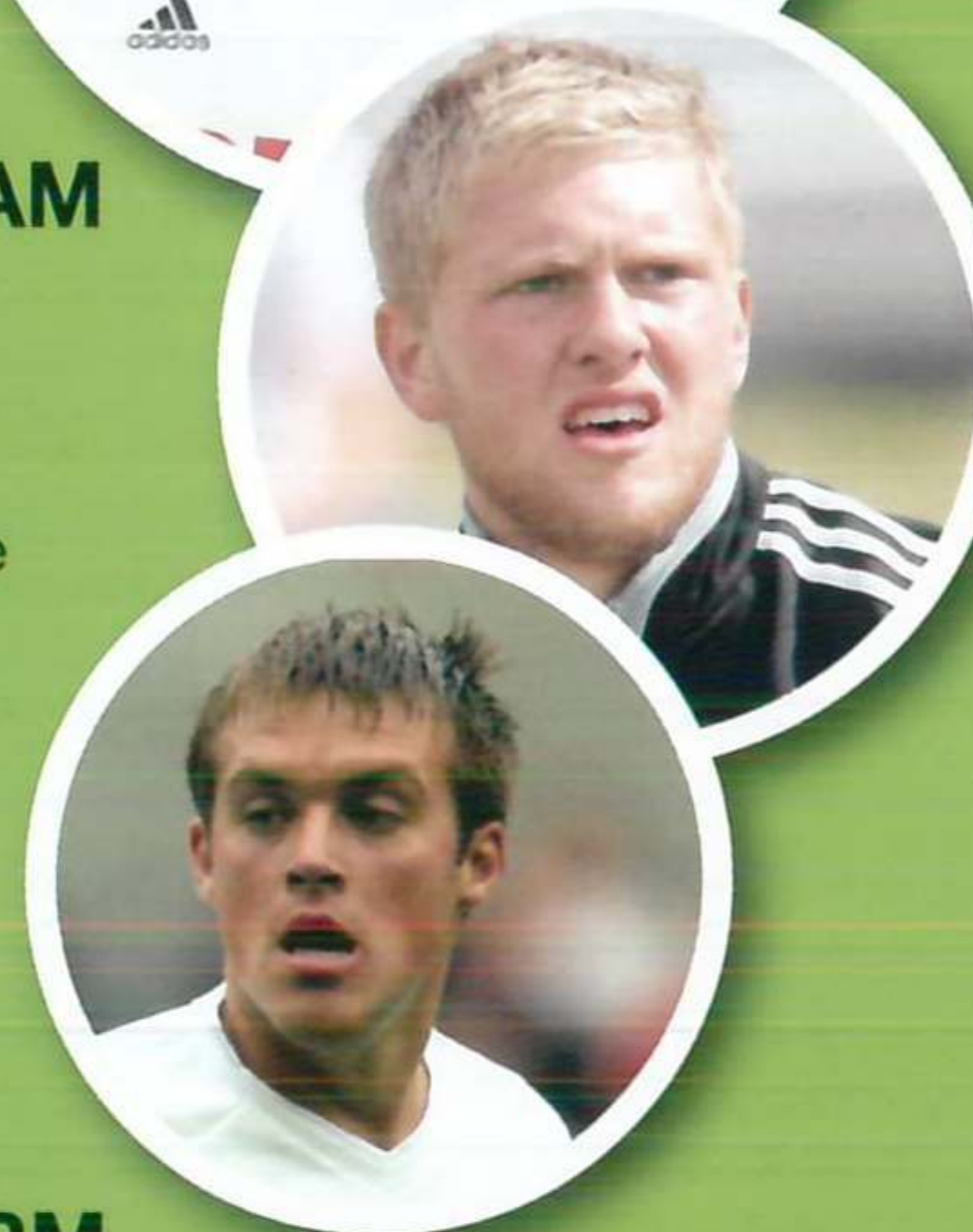
The 27-year-old former Celtic striker scored three times in his debut season under former boss Paulo Sousa from 23 league appearances, which included 12 starts.

He added four more goals last season under Brendan Rodgers from nine league starts and 13 substitute appearances after recovering from a calf strain picked up during the pre-season tour of Holland.



CORNELL NAMED IN TEAM OF THE WEEK

David Cornell was recently named in the Npower League Two Team of the Week. The keeper, on a season-long loan to the Bulls from Swansea, produced an accomplished display in Hereford's 2-0 win over Bradford at Edgar Street. The Wales Under-21 international has been in good form, despite the club struggling near the foot of the table in the Football League.



DONNELLY IN GOOD FORM FOR STRUGGLING CHAIRBOYS

Scott Donnelly has been in good form so far this season for Wycombe, despite the League One side hovering outside the relegation zone. The Swans midfielder, on loan at Wycombe for the second time in his career, has scored five goals so far this term to become the club's second top goalscorer.

Donnelly joined the Swans from Aldershot in 2010, but has made just one senior appearance for the club during the 3-0 win over Crystal Palace back in October last year.

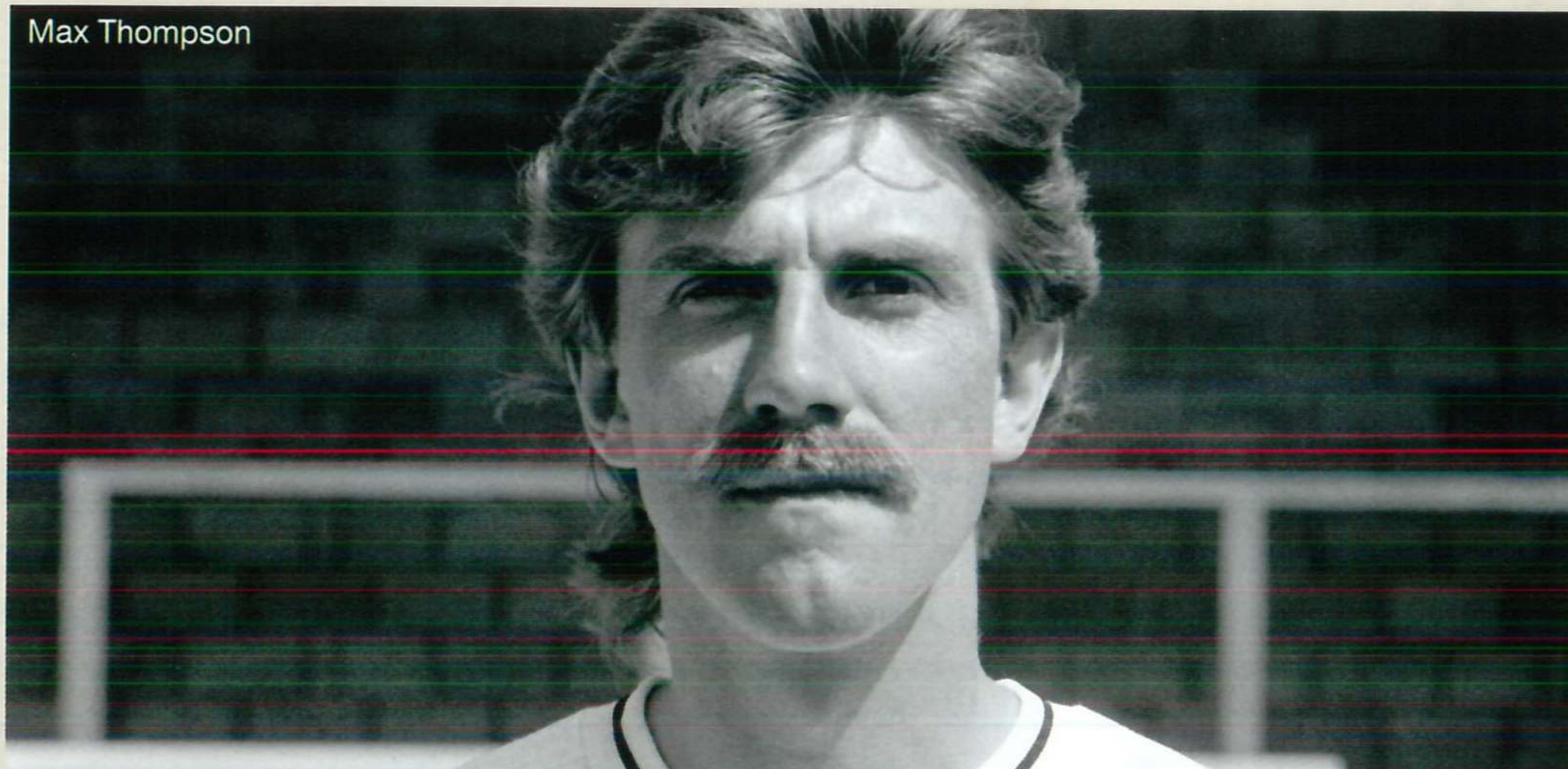
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**THE OFFICIAL
STATIONS
OF THE SWANS**

top flight - 30 years on...

Max Thompson



match 9

**10th October 1981 – Attendance 20,600
SWANSEA CITY 2-0 ARSENAL**

Swansea City stretched their winning First Division home run to five matches against Arsenal. The Gunners had much the better of the early exchanges and created many chances. Swansea went ahead against the run of play after 38 minutes when Dzemat Hadziabdic floated a free-kick, Bob Latchford headed the ball back and Leighton James scored with a low drive. Swansea, clinging to their slender lead, grew in confidence in the second half. John Hawley had an effort disallowed for handling, then Dai Davies brilliantly saved a John Hollins free-kick. Swansea sealed victory on 83 minutes when Max Thompson volleyed a spectacular shot into the roof of the net.

SWANSEA: Dai Davies, Neil Robinson, Dzemat Hadziabdic, Ante Rajkovic, Colin Irwin, John Mahoney, Alan Curtis, Robbie James, Leighton James, Max Thompson, Bob Latchford (Jeremy Charles),

match 10

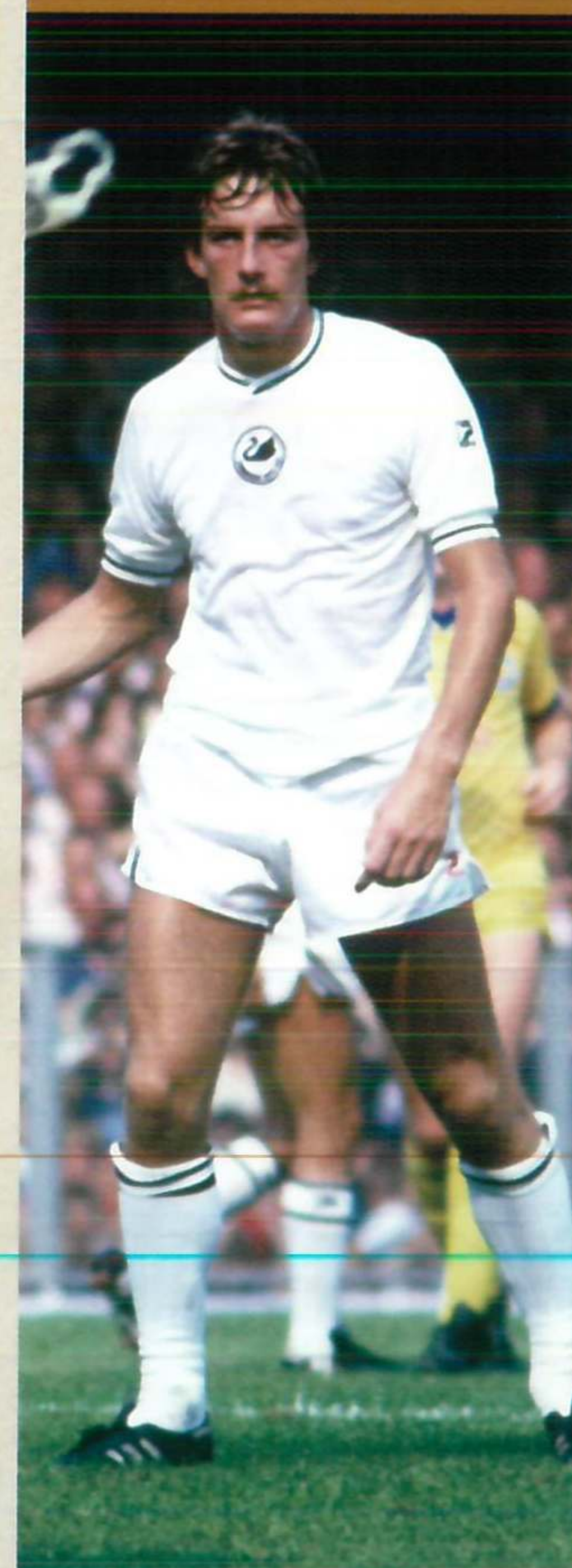
**17th October 1981 – Attendance 14,665
STOKE CITY 1-2 SWANSEA CITY**

Swansea City went top of the First Division for the first time in their history after this victory at the Victoria Ground. But John Toshack's side were dreadful in the first half as the Welsh players on duty against Iceland during the week appeared to have a World Cup hangover. Swansea were fortunate to be only trailing by Peter Griffiths' 35th minute goal at the interval as Stoke missed several good chances. Garry Stanley made his debut as substitute on 58 minutes and netted Swansea's equaliser seven minutes later. The Swans snatched an unlikely victory after 79 minutes when Stanley curled a free-kick for his ex-Everton team-mate Bob Latchford to score.

SWANSEA: Dai Davies, Neil Robinson, Dzemat Hadziabdic, Ante Rajkovic, Colin Irwin, John Mahoney, Alan Curtis, Robbie James, Leighton James (Garry Stanley), Max Thompson, Bob Latchford.

PLAYER PROFILE – COLIN IRWIN

John Toshack splashed out a club record of £340,000 for Colin in August 1981. His career was effectively ended by a knee injury in September 1982, playing 48 League games for Swansea before joining Perth Azzurri in May 1984. He has since become a distribution manager for a wine and spirits wholesaler in Perth, Western Australia.



HEADLINES ELSEWHERE

Goals by Steve Foster, Jimmy Case (right) and Andy Ritchie gave Brighton a thrilling 3-3 draw at home to Liverpool.... Mick Ferguson and Gary Stevens scored to give Everton a 2-1 win over Ipswich Town at Goodison Park.

No 1 movie: History Of The World Part 1

No 1 single: It's My Party – Dave Stewart with Barbara Gaskin



the day that 'Jimmy' became a swan...

WHEN DZEMAL HADZIABDIC was asked by John Toshack to turn out for the Swans in a pre-season friendly back in August 1980, little did he know that it would be the start of something special.

It was a wet night in Swansea and around 12,000 fans packed into the Vetch Field to see the Swans play Tottenham Hotspur, hoping to see some of the visitors' star players such as Glenn Hoddle or Ossie Ardiles.

But shortly after half-time, the fans had a new hero.

Despite playing only 50 minutes for the Swans after feeling the effects from a cold, 'Jimmy' as he affectionately became known as, entered the Swansea family.

"That was when I decided to play for Swansea City," said Hadziabdic.

"I was in this country to possibly join Crystal Palace when my manager told me about Swansea. I said to him I might go for a couple of days, and Toshack said to him 'bring this player, I want to see him.'

"He then rang me at 9am the next day to ask me to train and then play a trial match.

"I had a heavy cold so I said I would play 45 minutes – Toshack said 50. I played very well – probably my best game for three years and as I walked round the pitch the fans all cheered.

"I knew then I would be staying." Despite the interest of Crystal Palace, he also spurned an offer from John Bond at Norwich City to join the Swans from Velez Mostar and become a key part of John Toshack's side that would eventually win promotion to the First Division.

He formed a formidable partnership with Leighton James down the left hand side, but he remembers that it wasn't just the players on the pitch that got Swansea to the top tier of English

football.

"We came from the Second Division and not many of the team had experience of playing at the top," said Dzemaal.

"Those players were not just great players, they were great people too. We had the right mix and everyone in Swansea was behind us."

Hadziabdic's love for Swansea still runs true to this day as his wife, Diana, son Igor and daughter Rea, all still live in Birchgrove.

But he remembers the little gestures that helped him to settle in Swansea, as both John Toshack and the rest of the Swans squad took the Yugoslav under their wing.

"Not many clubs had what Swansea had," he said. "It was like a family and everyone was wonderful.

"I have a lot of respect for Alan Curtis, Leighton James and Nigel Stevenson and those other players.

"I did not speak much English and they helped me and I want to take time to thank them for what they did.

The Yugoslavia international, who played 20 times for his country, played his final game for the Swans against Southampton in 1983.

He then returned to his homeland to take up coaching before his career was halted by the civil war – a conflict which forced his family to flee the country.

But the Swansea faithful hadn't forgotten about Jimmy.

A benefit match was organised at the Vetch in 1992 for the victims of the civil war, and the ever-popular Hadziabdic was overwhelmed by the support.

"Swansea Council were fantastic," he said. "But most of all, the club and players were great and I shall never forget it."

Pictured are manager John Toshack with Dzemaal 'Jimmy' Hadziabdic (left) and Ante Rajkovic (right).

back in time...

Liverpool 1-2 Swansea

FA Cup Quarter-Final, 29 February 1964

With next week's trip to Liverpool in mind, Jack Magazine has scoured the archives to look back on one famous trip to Merseyside

SWANSEA REACHED the semi-finals of the FA Cup for the first time in 38 years after a spirited display at Anfield.

Just two weeks earlier the Swans had booked their date in Merseyside after overcoming Stoke City in a fifth round replay at the Vetch Field.

But the visiting fans left the north-west dreaming of a date at the home of English football as they marched into the last four of the cup.

Following a nervy start from the visitors – who looked a little overawed with the size of the occasion – Swansea settled into the game and took a two-goal lead through Thomas and McLaughlin.

This only served to shock the Anfield crowd and silence the infamous roar that could be heard from the Kop.

And the Liverpool defence that had been rated as the best in league football was being made to look average with the Swans frontline of Johnson, Purcell and

Williams a constant threat throughout.

But the hero of the afternoon was Swansea goalkeeper Noel Dwyer who produced a series of fantastic saves to keep out the hosts and reinforce his claim for a call-up to the Republic of Ireland national side.

The home side did manage to pull a goal back through the impressive Peter Thompson, who at outside-left, was by far Liverpool's best player on the day and he nearly broke Swansea hearts as he hit the post late on. However, Swansea's interest in the competition was ended three weeks later when they were beaten 3-2 by Preston at Villa Park.

Liverpool: Lawrence, Byrne, Moran, Milne, Yeats, Stevenson, Callaghan, Hunt, St John, Arrowsmith, Thompson

Swans: Dwyer, R. Evans, Hughes, Johnson, Purcell, Williams, Jones, Draper, Thomas, McLaughlin, B. Evans

Attendance: 52,608



ON THIS DAY



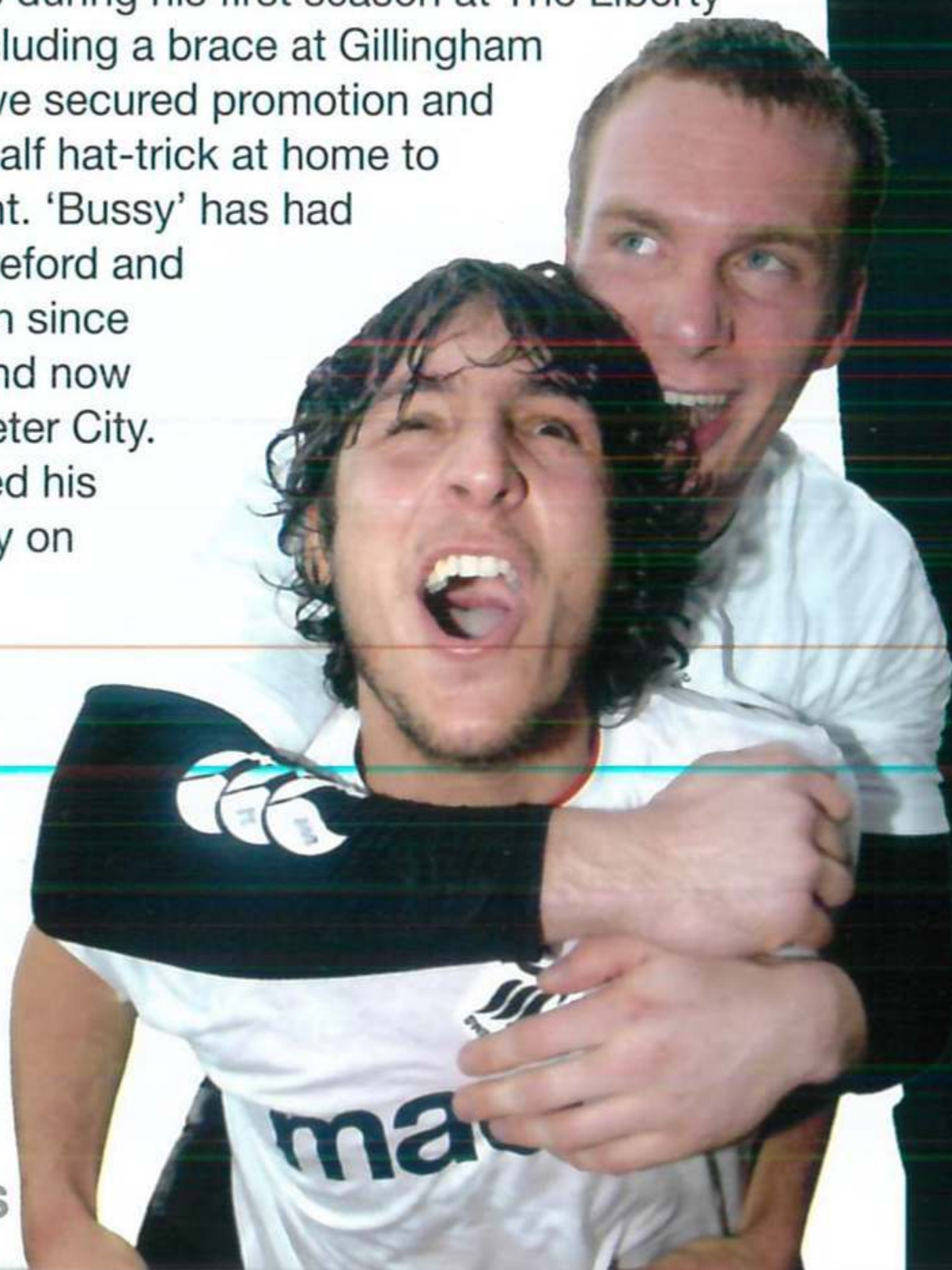
SWANS BIRTHDAYS

1982 ANGEL RANGEL

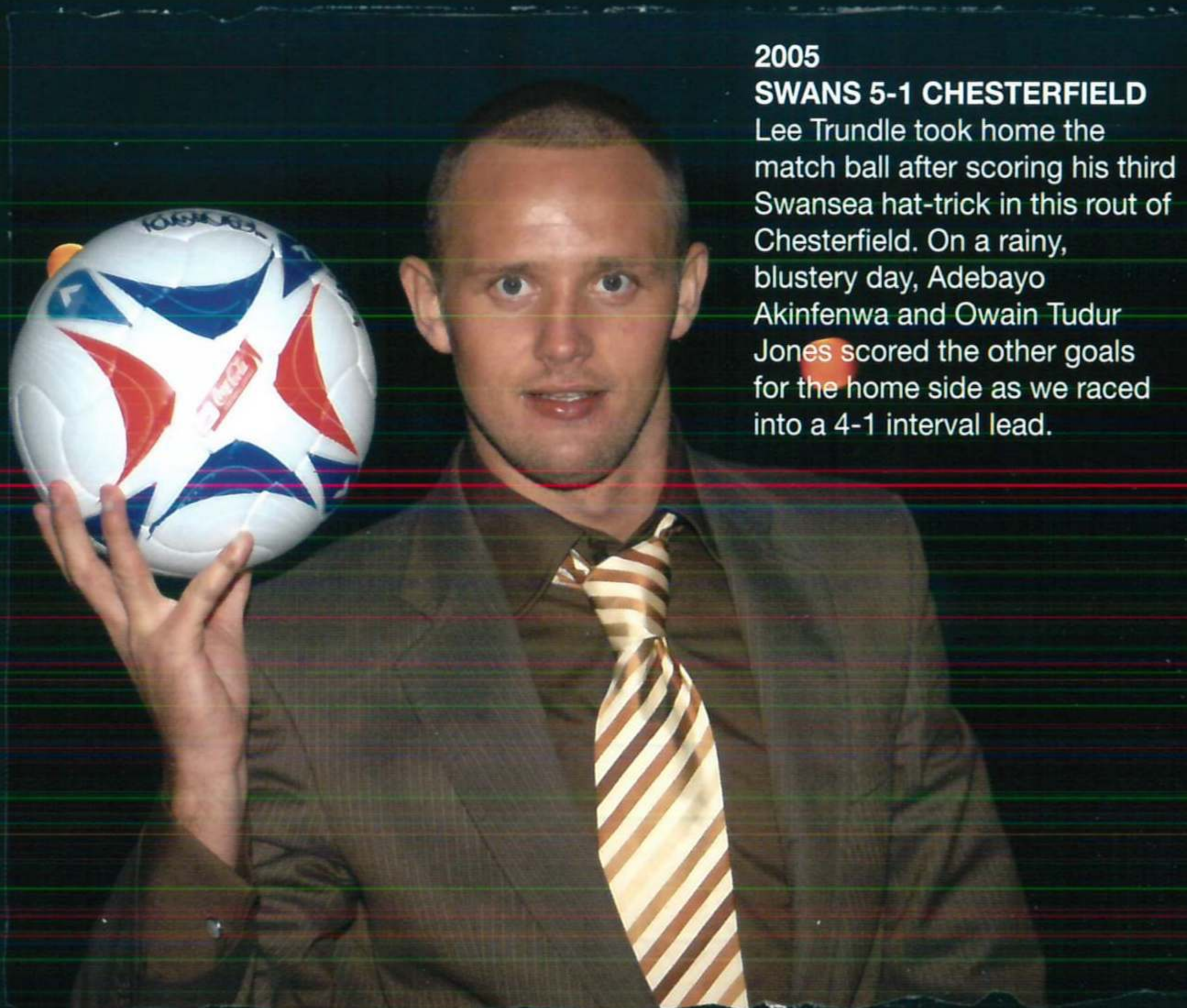
Angel Rangel joined us from Spanish football at the same time as Guillem Bauza and has made the right back position his own during the past four seasons. Now with over 150 league appearances for us, he has starred in both of our promotions, from the third tier into the Championship – and then last May, at Wembley as we secured our top flight status. A belated congratulations to Angel, who was 29 yesterday.

1984 GUILLEM BAUZA

Brought to Swansea during Roberto Martinez's reign as manager, Guillem Bauza made his debut for us in a home Carling Cup victory over Walsall in August 2007. His first goals for the club came in the JPT and the FA Cup but he scored seven league goals during his first season at The Liberty Stadium, including a brace at Gillingham on the day we secured promotion and then a first half hat-trick at home to Leyton Orient. 'Bussy' has had spells at Hereford and Northampton since leaving us and now plays for Exeter City. He celebrated his 27th birthday on Tuesday.



SWANS MATCHES



2005

SWANS 5-1 CHESTERFIELD

Lee Trundle took home the match ball after scoring his third Swansea hat-trick in this rout of Chesterfield. On a rainy, blustery day, Adebayo Akinfenwa and Owain Tudur Jones scored the other goals for the home side as we raced into a 4-1 interval lead.

2002

SWANS 0-4 KIDDERMINSTER

A 4-0 thumping by Kidderminster condemned the Swans to their biggest home defeat since 1991, during a week that saw them slip to the foot of the Third Division table. Sam Shilton scored the opener for the Harriers, who put some gloss on the scoreline with late strikes from Drewe Broughton and John Melligan, after Andrew Mumford had also put through his own goal.

1996

SWANS 2-1 WIGAN

The foundation for our first win in eight matches came from an early goal by full back Mark Clode, his first for eighteen months. Steve Torpey headed in Keith Walker's free kick to double the advantage before Spanish substitute Isidro Diaz set up a tense finish for the crowd of 2,227.

1994

SWANS 2-0 PETERBOROUGH

Jason Bowen's first of the season capped off a fine all-round display from the Swans, as we overcame the form tables to defeat Posh at Vetch Field in front of 2,733 supporters. John Hendry scored the other goal – his second for us in an eight match loan spell from Spurs.

1988

SWANS 1-1 PRESTON

Seventh ahead of this fixture, only goal difference separated Terry Yorath's side from sixth placed Preston going into this Third Division clash 23 years ago, so a draw was always the likeliest outcome. Striker Tony Ellis was on the mark for the visitors, with Andy Melville getting our goal.



SPORTING EVENT

2010

One year ago Welsh darts player Julie Gore won the Winmau World Masters, beating Francis Hoenselaar of the Netherlands in the Final at Hull. Julie, from Llanelli, joined Anne-Marie Davies, Ann Thomas, Rhiann Speed and Leeanne Maddock as the only Welsh winners of the title. The men's event was won by England's Martin Adams.



EVENTS IN HISTORY

1618 English adventurer

Sir Walter Raleigh was beheaded on this day for allegedly conspiring against King James 1

1967 London criminal

Jack McVitie was murdered by the Kray twins, leading to their eventual imprisonment

1986 Prime Minister

Margaret Thatcher opened the final section of the M25 motorway

1998 Space Shuttle Discovery blasted off with 77 year old John Glenn on board, the oldest person to go into space

2008 US carriers Delta Air Lines and Northwest Airlines merge to create the largest airline in the world

2011 The first Newport Food Festival is being held today in the city centre and is due to be attended by some of the leading chefs in Wales



FOOTBALL BIRTHDAYS

1989

TEMITOPE OBEDEYI

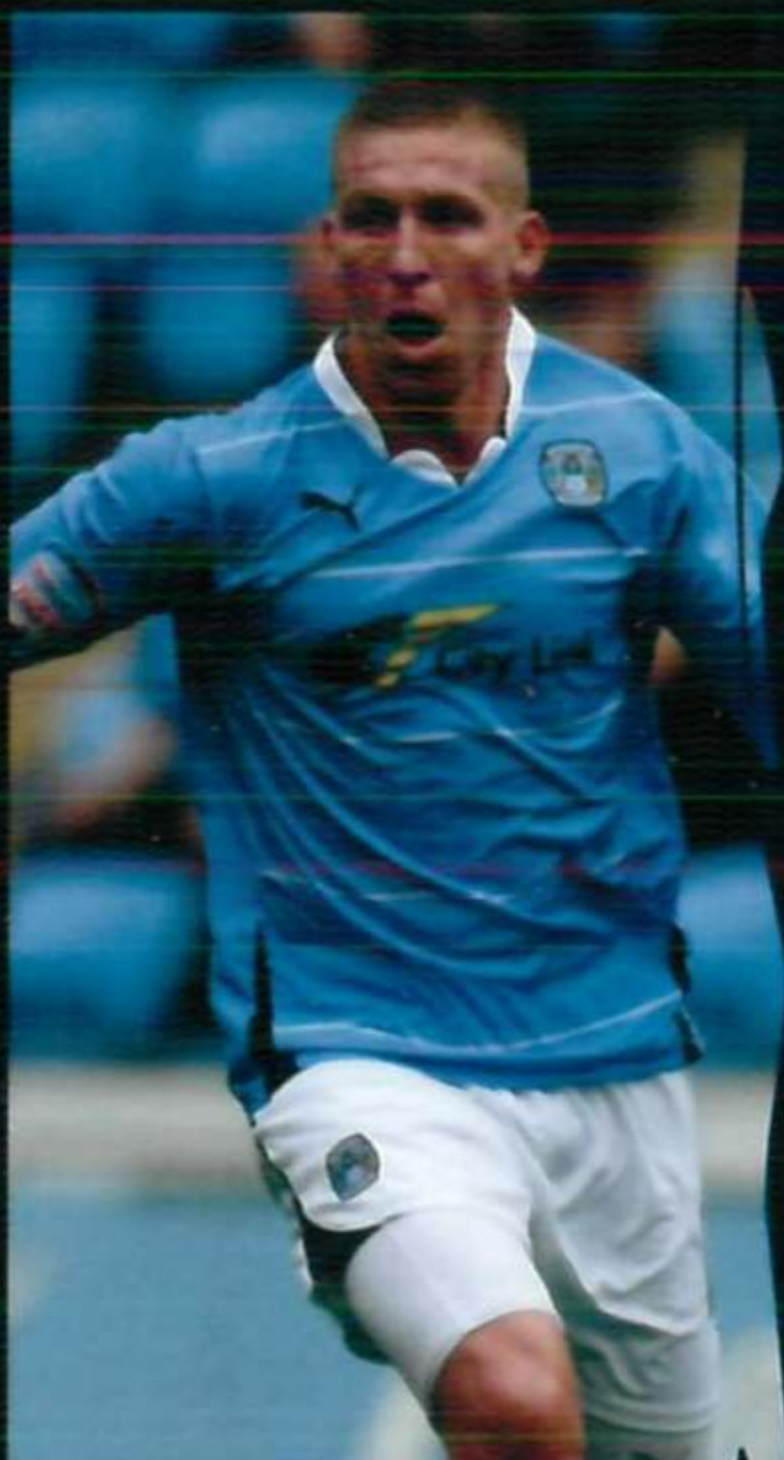
Bolton Wanderers' Temitope Obadeyi is 22 today. The Birmingham-born striker made his debut for The Trotters in a 1-0 defeat to Wigan in December 2008. Since then he has spent loan spells at Shrewsbury Town, Rochdale and Swindon Town gaining valuable first team experience. 'Tope' signed a new one year deal during the summer and will be looking to break into Owen Coyle's Premiership side on a more regular basis this season.



1983

FREDDY EASTWOOD

Welsh international Freddy Eastwood is 28 today. After scoring 37 times in his first season with Gray's Athletic he was given an opportunity to impress with Southend United and took his chance in record-breaking fashion. Playing against the Swans at Root Hall – he scored after just 7.7 seconds, the quickest goal ever goal by a debutant, and scored twice more in a 4-2 victory. After a year at Wolves he joined Coventry City in the summer of 2008. Freddy scored on his debut for Wales, in Bulgaria in 2007, one of four goals he has netted from his eleven international appearances.



SPORTING BIRTHDAYS

1971 Premiership referee Lee Mason is 40 today. The Bolton official last officiated in one of our games back in March, when we drew here in the Championship against Watford. He was also the man in charge of our League One Play Off Final defeat to Barnsley at the Millennium Stadium in 2006. Lee's younger brother, Andy, was formerly on the books of today's opponents, Bolton Wanderers, although his only league outings came in spells at Hull City, Chesterfield and Macclesfield.



CHART TOPPER

1959 Bobby Darin – Mack The Knife

1969 Archies – Sugar Sugar

1972 Chuck Berry –

My Ding-A-Ling

1985 Jennifer Rush –

The Power Of Love

1997 Spice Girls – Spice Up Your Life

2005 Arctic Monkeys – Bet You Look Good On The Dancefloor





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trachwant y clybiau mawr yn peri pryder

WRTH IMI 'sgwennu hwn, mae'r Swans yn bymthegfed yn yr Uwch Gynghrair – yn mwynhau bywyd o'r diwedd yn uchelfannau pêl-droed y gwledydd hyn.

Fe fydddech chi'n tybio, felly, wrth fwynhau'r uchafbwynt yma yn hanes y clwb, na fyddwn i nawr yn cwyno am ddisgyn ymhellach y tu ôl i glybiau fel Manchester United a Chelsea. Wedi'r cyfan, rydyn bellach yn rhannu'r un gynghrair. Ond, yn anffodus, mae ambell ddatblygiad diweddar yn wir yn peri pryder.

Ar ddechrau'r tymor, ro'n i'n teimlo'n hapusach ynglyn â dyfodol y 'gem brydferth', gyda fy nhîm i'n cystadlu gyda'r bechgyn mawr a dyfodiad rheolau Chwarae Teg Ariannol (Financial Fair Play) oedd yn addo tir mwy gwastad ar gyfer y clybiau'r tymor nesa'.

Ond yn ystod yr wythnosau diwethaf mae rhai o'r clybiau mwya' wedi datgan eu bwriad i gadw neu hyd yn oed ychwanegu at y bwlch rhyngddyn' nhw a'r clybiau llai.

Ian Ayre, Rheolwr-Gyfarwyddwr Lerpwl oedd y cyntaf, wrth gyhoeddi awydd y clwb i dorri'n rhydd o gytundeb teledu presennol yr Uwch Gynghrair a gwerthu'u hawliau'n unigol.

Mae hon yn drefn sy'n bodoli eisoes yn La Liga yn Sbaen ac mae wedi galluogi'r ddau glwb mwya', a mwya' poblogaidd, Barcelona a Real Madrid i hawlio mwyafrif llethol arian teledu Sbaen a defnyddio'r arian hwnnw i ymestyn eu mantais dros y clybiau eraill.

Mae'r bwlch rhyngddyn' nhw a'r clybiau eraill yn cynyddu. Ar ddiwedd y tymor diwethaf, roedd 21 pwynt rhwng yr ail a'r trydydd yn La Liga.

O ganlyniad, mae ambell reolwr yn Sbaen wedi cyfaddef nad oes pwynt cystadlu o gwbl yn erbyn Real a Barca, a fe allai'r un peth ddigwydd yn yr Uwch Gynghrair petai'r clybiau mwya'n cael rheoli'u cytundebau teledu eu hunain, fyddai yn ei dro'n arwain at Uwch-Uwch-Gynghrair o bedwar neu bum tîm.

O gofio bod y rhan helaethaf o'r £40 miliwn sy'n ariannu'r Uwch Gynghrair yn dod o hawliau teledu, ble fyddai'r trefniant newydd hwn yn gadael clybiau llai fel Abertawe sy'n bodoli ar gyllid tynn eithriadol?

Rwy' wedi nodi o'r blaen pwysigrwydd academi ieuencid gref ar gyfer Abertawe er mwyn datblygu'n talentau'n hunain a gallu cystadlu heb orfod talu ffioedd trosglwyddo anferth.

Fe fyddai hefyd yn ein galluogi ni i elwa petai cynnyrch yr academi'n symud ymlaen i borfeydd brasach....hynny yw, tan yr wythnos diwethaf. Bryd hynny y gwelwyd cyflwyno'r Cynllun Perfformiad Chwaraewr Elit (Elite Player Performance Plan), cynllun sy'n disodli'r sustem tribiwnlys presennol o fesur gwerth chwaraewr wrth iddo newid clwb.

Mae'r cynllun newydd yn chwalu'r symiau a delir i'r clybiau am chwaraewyr academi ac yn eithrio'r clybiau mawr rhag y rheol sy'n mynnu bod yn rhaid lleoli chwaraewyr dan 16 mewn clybiau 90 munud i'w cartrefi.

Byddai hyn yn golygu y gallai'r Swans golli'r cyfle i arwyddo'r Joe Allen neu Daniel Alfei nesa'n gyfangwbl, neu orfod eu gwerthu nhw am geiniogau wedi'u datblygu nhw. On'd yw hi'n rhyfedd taw ond chwe chlwb yn yr Uwch Gynghrair luniodd y cynllun newydd hwn, gan gynnwys Arsenal, Man United a Chelsea, y clybiau fyddai'n elwa fwyaf o'r newidiadau? Teg neu beth???

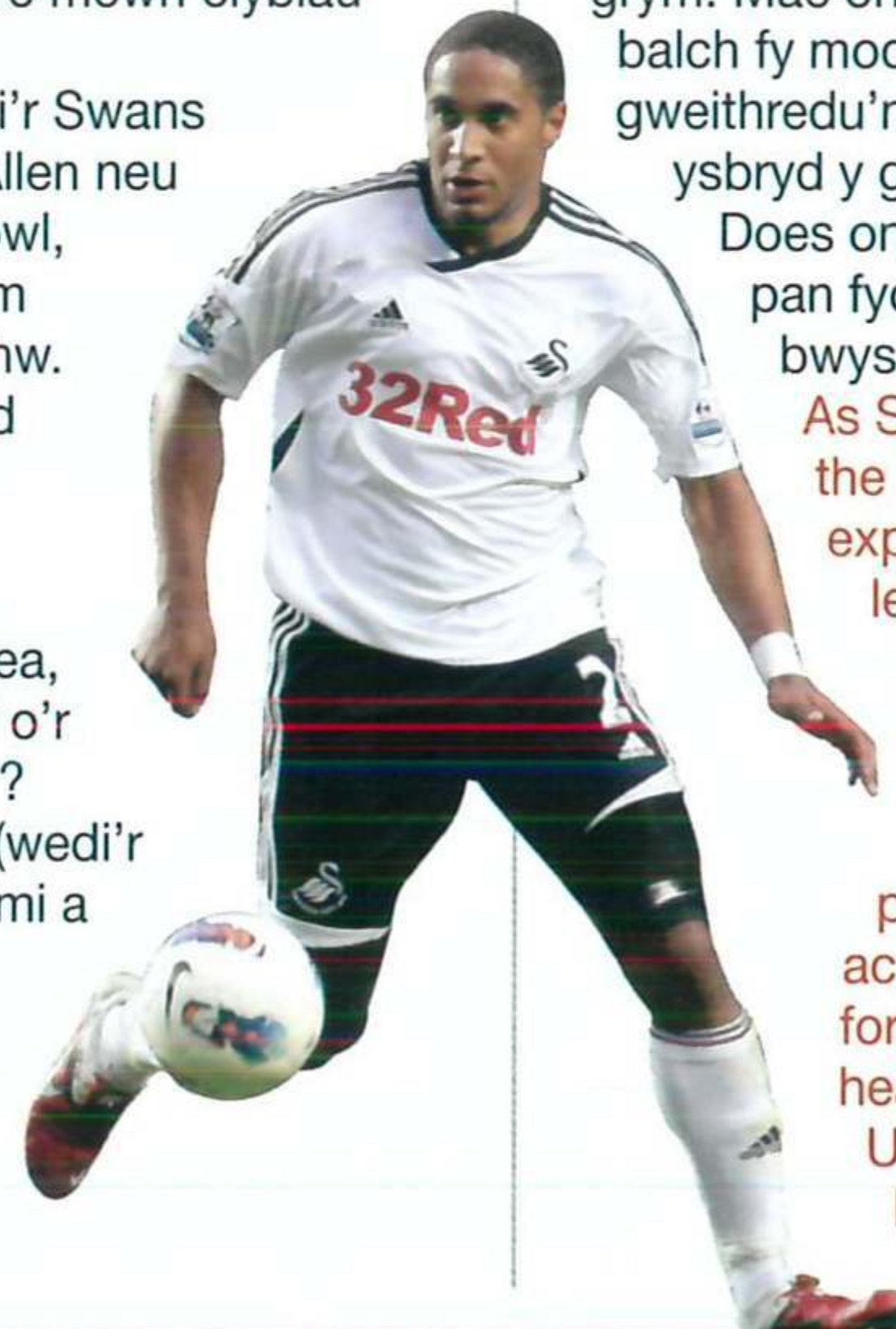
Mae hyn yn codi'r cwestiwn (wedi'r holl siarad am sefydlu academi a gadael etifeddiaeth) - beth yw'r pwynt o fuddsoddi mewn datblygu ieuencid bellach os gall y clybiau mawr hofran fel fwlturiaid a dwyn y dalent orau?

Ar yr union adeg pan welir arwyddion bod pêl-droed yn dechrau dilyn llwybr cywir, mae'r clybiau mwya' yn symud am ragor o arian a grym. Mae ond yn gwneud i fi deimlo'n fwy balch fy mod i'n cefnogi tîm 'llai' sy'n gweithredu'n onest, yn decach ac yng ngwir ysbryd y gêm.

Does ond gobeithio y byddwn ni'n dal yma pan fydd pêl-droed yn dadfeilio dan bwysau'i drachwant ei hun.

As Swansea enjoy their first season in the Premier League, Rhys Padarn expresses concern that some of the league's biggest clubs are looking for more money and benefits.

They are pushing for their own exclusive television rights and for more freedom in attracting young players from other clubs' academies. He hopes that this drive for even more powers for the heavyweights like Manchester United, Chelsea and Liverpool, can be stopped before it's too late.



news extra...

HOWZAT... Alan Tate receives a cheque for £1,100 from Mumbles Cricket Club members Paul Kenealy, Peter Blyth and young Matthias Kenealy. The funds were raised for Hill House Hospital during a pre-season charity cricket match at Marespool between Mumbles and the Swans. Tate was voted the Swans Man of the Match.



Date	Opposition	KO	H/A	Res	W.D.L	Att	Away	Pts	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mon Aug 15	Manchester City	8pm	A	0-4	L	46,802	2,698	0	20	Vorm	Rangel	Caulker	Williams	Tate©	Britton	Agustein
Sat Aug 20	Wigan Athletic	3pm	H	0-0	D	19,028	800	1	16	Vorm	Rangel	Caulker	Williams©	Taylor	Agustien	Britton
Tue Aug 23	Shrewsbury	7:45pm	A	1-3	L	4,063	633	-	-	Moreira	Alfei	Walsh	Tate©	Williams	Allen	Gower
Sat Aug 27	Sunderland	3pm	H	0-0	D	19,938	1,671	2	15	Vorm	Rangel	Caulker	Williams©	Taylor	Agustien	Britton
Sat Sep 10	Arsenal	3pm	A	0-1	L	60,087	2,914	2	19	Vorm	Rangel	Caulker	Williams©	Taylor	Agustien	Britton
Sat Sep 17	West Bromwich Albion	3pm	H	3-0	W	20,341	1,998	5	14	Vorm	Rangel	Monk©	Williams	Taylor	Britton	Gower
Sat Sep 24	Chelsea	3pm	A	1-4	L	41,800	3,173	5	16	Vorm	Rangel	Williams	Monk©	Taylor	Britton	Allen
Sun Oct 2	Stoke City	3pm	H	2-0	W	19,533	1,182	8	10	Vorm	Rangel	Williams	Monk©	Taylor	Allen	Gower
Sat Oct 15	Norwich City	3pm	A	1-3	L	26,567	1,197	8	13	Vorm	Rangel	Williams	Monk©	Taylor	Allen	Britton
Sat Oct 22	Wolves	12:45pm	A	2-2	D	26,216	2,102	9	15	Vorm	Rangel	Williams	Monk©	Taylor	Allen	Britton
Sat Oct 29	Bolton Wanderers	3pm	H													
Sat Nov 5	Liverpool	3pm	A													
Sat Nov 19	Manchester United	5:30pm	H													
Sun Nov 27	Aston Villa	1:30pm	H													
Sat Dec 3	Blackburn Rovers	3pm	A													
Sat Dec 10	Fulham	3pm	H													
Sat Dec 17	Newcastle United	3pm	A													
Wed Dec 21	Everton	7:45pm	A													
Tue Dec 27	Queens Park Rangers	5pm	H													
Sat Dec 31	Tottenham Hotspur	3pm	H													
Mon Jan 2	Aston Villa	3pm	A													
Sat Jan 7	FA Cup 3															
Sun Jan 15	Arsenal	4pm	H													
Sat Jan 21	Sunderland	3pm	A													
Sat Jan 28	FA Cup 4															
Tue Jan 31	Chelsea	7:45pm	H													
Sat Feb 4	West Bromwich Albion	3pm	A													
Sat Feb 11	Norwich City	3pm	H													
Sat Feb 18	FA Cup 5															
Sat Feb 25	Stoke City	3pm	A													
Sat Mar 3	Wigan Athletic	3pm	A													
Sat Mar 10	Manchester City	3pm	H													
Sat Mar 17	Fulham FA Cup 6	3pm	A													
Sat Mar 24	Everton	3pm	H													
Sat Mar 31	Tottenham Hotspur	3pm	A													
Sat Apr 7	Newcastle United	3pm	H													
Mon Apr 9	Queens Park Rangers	3pm	A													
Sat Apr 14	Blackburn Rovers FA Cup SF	3pm	H													
Sat Apr 21	Bolton Wanderers	3pm	A													
Sat Apr 28	Wolverhampton Wanderers	3pm	H													
Sat May 5	Manchester United FA Cup Final	3pm	A													
Sun May 13	Liverpool	3pm	H													

wembley special

IF SOMEONE has said just a few years ago that Swansea City would be compiling a special Jack Magazine to commemorate the club's rise to the Premier League, they would have probably sent for the men in white coats! But here we are releasing a 76-page special celebrating the club's magical day at Wembley where 40,000 Jacks endured every emotion possible in a Championship Play-off Final thriller against Reading.

By half-time virtually every Swans fan 'believed' after Scott Sinclair (2) and Stephen Dobbie fired the Swans into an amazing 3-0 interval lead. There was a handful among the crowd who were cautious, however. After all, everyone knows that Swansea City never do things the easy way.

And so it proved. Reading pulled two quick goals back and had it not been for the woodwork and Garry Monk's outstretched right boot, Jack cheers could have turned to Jack tears.

Instead, Scott Sinclair prevented the fingernails from being bitten down to the bone with a late penalty that completed victory and ensured the Swans became the first Welsh side to grace the Premier League.

This special 76-page commemorative magazine will hopefully help celebrate that moment and we've produced a publication that is predominantly picture based. The Official Wembley Special is just £3 and will be available in the club shop and online.



half-time flyer winners

October 2 v Stoke City

Ticket: Away 26050

Amount: £1,000

Winner: Stephen Bujegan



8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Dyer	Dobbie	Graham	Sinclair	Allen	Routledge	Lita	Moreira	Gower	Orlandi	Moore
Routledge	Dyer	Sinclair	Graham	Allen	Dobbie	Lita	Moreira	Tate	Moore	Gower
Orlandi	Lita	Moore	Graham	Taylor	Dobbie	Sinclair	Britton	Vorm	Agustien	Caulker
Routledge	Dyer	Sinclair	Graham	Lita	Allen	Dobbie	Moreira	Tate	Moore	Gower
Allen	Dyer	Sinclair	Graham	Gower	Dobbie	Moore	Tremmel	Richards	Bessone	Lita
Allen	Dyer	Sinclair	Lita	Moore	Routledge	Bessone	Dobbie	Tremmel	Richards	Lucas
Gower	Dyer	Sinclair	Lita	Routledge	Graham	Dobbie	Tremmel	Richards	Bessone	Moore
Dyer	Sinclair	Routledge	Graham	Moore	Lita	Dobbie	Tremmel	Lucas	Richards	Bessone
Dyer	Sinclair	Routledge	Graham	Dobbie	Lita	Richards	Tremmel	Gower	Moore	Moras
Gower	Dyer	Sinclair	Graham	Orlandi	Routledge	Moras	Tremmel	Lita	Richards	Moore



Pictured above drawing the Supporters Trust raffle are Leon Britton, Ron Knuzska, Gareth James, Alan Lewis and Kevin Johns, a big thank you to both Leon and Kevin for their assistance.

When life-long Swans fan Carl Arnold from Gendros was thinking of what to do to celebrate his 72nd Birthday a phone call from the Supporters' Trust brought the answer. The phone call was to tell Carl that he was the first prize winner in the Trust's Premier League Raffle and that £500 was heading his way.

Carl, immediately decided that the winnings would help take him and his wife Sylvia to Spain for a sunshine birthday celebration.

The winner of a Season Ticket each were Adam Bray of Mayals and Jeremy Cox of London.

Winning the Director(s) for Day was David Hill of Morriston, co-incidentally he won the Hospitality prize too.

The winner of a Night in Morgans was Martin Eames of Aberdare and the Vetch Box Set winner was D. Barker of Cardigan.

Finally, winning the Swans Signed Shirt was David Thompson of Rhyd y Fro.

		LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL	
		Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals
1	MICHEL VORM	9	0	-	-	9	0
2	ASHLEY WILLIAMS	9	1	1	0	10	1
3	NEIL TAYLOR	8	0	(1)	0	8(1)	0
4	STEVEN CAULKER	4	0	-	-	4	0
5	ALAN TATE	2	0	1	0	3	0
6	FERRIE BODDE						
7	LEON BRITTON	8	0	-	-	8	0
8	ANDREA ORLANDI	(1)	-	1	0	1(1)	0
9	CRAIG BEATTIE	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	DANNY GRAHAM	7(1)	3	1	0	8(1)	3
11	SCOTT SINCLAIR	9	2	(1)	0	9(1)	2
12	NATHAN DYER	9	1	-	-	9	1
13	DAVID CORNELL	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	STEPHEN DOBBIE	1(5)	0	(1)	0	1(6)	0
15	WAYNE ROUTLEDGE	4(4)	0	-	-	4(4)	0
16	GARRY MONK	5	0	-	-	5	0
17	DAVID COTTERILL	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	LEROY LITA	2(5)	0	1	0	3(5)	1
19	LUKE MOORE	(3)	0	1	0	1(3)	0
20	FEDE BESSONE	(1)	0	-	-	(1)	0
21	JOSE MOREIRA	-	-	1	0	1	0
22	ANGEL RANGEL	9	0	-	-	9	0
24	JOE ALLEN	6(3)	1	1	0	6(3)	1
26	KEMY AGUSTIEN	4	0	-	-	4	0
27	MARK GOWER	4(1)	0	1	0	5	0
28	TOM BUTLER	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	JAZZ RICHARDS	(1)	-	-	-	(1)	-
30	SCOTT DONNELLY	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	LEE LUCAS	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	BEN DAVIES	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	JOE WALSH	-	-	1	0	-	-
35	DANIEL ALFEI	-	-	1	0	-	-
36	CASEY THOMAS	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	JORDAN SMITH	-	-	-	-	-	-
38	GWION EDWARDS	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	KURTIS MARCH	-	-	-	-	-	-
44	EVANGELOS MORAS	(1)	0	-	-	(1)	0

	Team	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	P
1	Man City	9	4	0	0	13	1	4	1	0	20	6	26	25
2	Man Utd	9	4	0	1	17	9	2	2	0	9	3	14	20
3	Chelsea	9	4	0	0	12	4	2	1	2	8	6	10	19
4	Newcastle	9	3	2	0	8	4	2	2	0	4	2	6	19
5	Tottenham	8	2	0	1	7	6	3	1	1	8	7	2	16
6	Liverpool	9	2	3	0	8	5	2	0	2	4	5	2	15
7	Arsenal	9	4	0	1	9	4	0	1	3	6	14	-3	13
8	Norwich	9	2	1	1	6	4	1	2	2	5	8	-1	12
9	Stoke	9	2	2	0	4	1	1	1	3	3	10	-4	12
10	QPR	9	1	3	1	3	6	2	0	2	4	8	-7	12
11	Aston Villa	9	2	2	1	7	4	0	3	1	4	7	0	11
12	West Brom	9	1	1	2	3	3	2	1	2	6	8	-2	11
13	Everton	8	1	1	2	5	6	2	0	2	5	6	-2	10
14	Sunderland	9	1	1	2	7	5	1	2	2	5	5	2	9
15	Swansea	9	2	2	0	5	0	0	1	4	4	14	-5	9
16	Wolves	9	1	1	3	5	9	1	1	2	3	5	-6	8
17	Fulham	9	1	3	1	10	6	0	1	3	1	6	-1	7
18	Bolton	9	0	0	5	4	17	2	0	2	8	7	-12	6
19	Wigan	9	1	1	2	5	6	0	1	4	1	9	-9	5
20	Blackburn	9	1	0	4	6	12	0	2	2	4	8	-10	5

() Numbers in brackets are for substitute appearance



DOB: 20th Oct 1983, Height: 6'0", Weight: 84kg

john van zweden

Michel Vorm - Keeper



DOB: 3rd Aug 1984, Height: 5'11", Weight: 78kg

nuvestic

Craig Beattie - Striker



DOB: 28th Dec 1984, Height: 5'9", Weight: 80kg

ESS
EDUCATION STAFFING
SOLUTIONS

Leroy Lita - Striker



DOB: 23rd Aug 1984, Height: 6'0", Weight: 75kg

**donovan and
james bell**

Ashley Williams - Defender



DOB: 12th Aug 1985, Height: 6'1", Weight: 87kg

Budget
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Danny Graham - Striker



DOB: 13th Feb 1986, Height: 5'11", Weight: 75kg

gabriella katzen

Luke Moore - Striker



DOB: 7th Feb 1989, Height: 5'9", Weight: 64kg

ANROC
HEATING SERVICES LIMITED

Neil Taylor - Defender



DOB: 25th March 1989, Height: 5'10", Weight: 69kg

AMMCOM
LIMITED

Scott Sinclair - Winger



DOB: 14th March 1990, Height: 5'7", Weight: 62kg

**princes
gate**
Cool Water

Joe Allen - Midfielder



DOB: 29th Dec 1991, Height: 6'3", Weight: 76kg

WELSH LIFTS
SERVICE & REPAIR TO ALL MAKES OF LIFTS

Steven Caulker - Defender



DOB: 29th Nov 1987, Height: 5'5", Weight: 57kg

Davies
CHEMISTS
SINCE 1852

Nathan Dyer - Winger



DOB: 20th Aug 1986, Height: 5'10", Weight: 75kg

john van zweden

Kemy Agustien - Midfielder



DOB: 2nd Sept 1982, Height: 6'1", Weight: 84kg

thriiv

Alan Tate - Defender



DOB: 5th Dec 1982, Height: 5'8", Weight: 65kg

Stephen Dobbie - Striker



DOB: 12th April 1991, Height: 6'1", Weight: 77kg

Jazz Richards - Defender



DOB: 5th May 1982, Height: 5'10", Weight: 73kg

john van zweden

Ferrie Bodde - Midfielder



DOB: 7th Jan 1985, Height: 5'7", Weight: 63kg

Wayne Routledge - Midfield



DOB: 16th Nov 1978, Height: 6'3", Weight: 89kg

Gerhard Tremmel - Keeper



DOB: 16th Sept 1982, Height: 5'6", Weight: 63kg

ABC
CAMPING &
OUTDOOR LEISURE

Leon Britton - Midfielder



DOB: 6th March 1979, Height: 6'0", Weight: 80kg

J&J Motors
Discover the Difference
Swansea - Crediton - Haverfordwest

Garry Monk - Defender



DOB: 26th Aug 1981, Height: 6'5", Weight: 78kg

Vangelis Moras - Defender



DOB: 5th Oct 1978, Height: 5'11", Weight: 75kg

Rossetto

Mark Gower - Midfielder



DOB: 28th Oct 1982, Height: 6'2", Weight: 84kg

ABC
CAMPING &
OUTDOOR LEISURE

Angel Rangel - Defender

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jack in the box by abigail davis

LAST WEEKEND'S game at Molineux saw Swansea record their first Premier League point away from the Liberty.

Heading into the fixture on the back of a 3-1 defeat at Carrow Road, most fans in the away end felt that avoiding defeat as well as giving an honest account of ourselves was imperative. As we got into the ground, my overriding fear was that we weren't going to do ourselves justice against vulnerable opposition.

Prior to kick off, I would have happily settled for a point against Mick McCarthy's side, despite knowing that if we took our A-game we were more than capable of compiling further misery on Wolves' current predicament by condemning them to their sixth successive defeat.

Early signs were positive and as we looked to assert pressure from the outset, it was reassuring to see that we were going to take the game to our opponents as players looked to have a belief in themselves that has so far evaded them on the road.

Swansea delivered a sumptuous first half performance in which they commanded proceedings and for the first time this season away from home, we were able to implement the tactics and emphatic passing movements that we see so often at the Liberty.

Two first half goals courtesy of Graham and Allen ensured Swansea had a deserved advantage at half time.

There was a different vibe among Swans fans at the interval; you could sense the relief as people felt we had finally overcome the issues that have so far hampered us away from home.

Swansea showed no real sign of letting the home side back into the game after the break, and with less than 20 minutes remaining, I for one began to feel our poor away fortune was about to change with a comfortable well-earned victory.

However, with a double substitution from the home side followed by two changes of our own, there was a huge momentum switch. Swansea seemed to be passing the ball around complacently, which was highly frustrating to watch considering Wolves are renowned for their ability to finish games

strongly. Visiting fans could sense that if the home side were to halve the deficit they could press on for an equaliser. With two goals in two minutes from Doyle and O'Hara, that's exactly what happened as Wolves somehow managed to salvage a point. Conceding the lead so late in the game left us with mixed emotions at the final whistle. There was relief, having ended our run of defeats on the road. But even at this early stage of the season, I couldn't help wondering whether in such a competitive league we will rue missed chances come May.



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from the kings road to mumbles road...

SWANSEA CITY'S new Performance Consultant, Glen Driscoll, reckons manager Brendan Rodgers is moonlighting for the Swansea Bay Tourist Board in his spare time.

Driscoll swapped the bright lights of London a fortnight ago for the calmer waters of Swansea Bay after nearly 10 years service at Chelsea.

And having worked under Jose Mourinho, Avram Grant, Luiz Felipe Scolari, Guus Hiddink and Carlo Ancelotti at Stamford Bridge, Driscoll believes Brendan did a great sales job on him to tempt him to Wales for the first time.

"The way Brendan sold Swansea to me was amazing. In fact he should be working for the Swansea Bay Tourist Board," joked Driscoll. "He's clearly very happy here and was without doubt one of the main reasons why I decided to come to Swansea."

Driscoll, 36, will oversee and support the medical and performance departments at the club until further notice in a bid to help the Swans maintain their Premier League status and build on their success over recent years.

His arrival at the Liberty Stadium was described as a "coup" by the Swansea manager who found it hard to hide his delight at the capture.

"He's got a great background and tremendous experience and expertise," declared Brendan. "He is unique in the fact that he is a specialist in both medical and physical conditioning."

"His expertise will help both departments of the club and his arrival is a massive boost for us."

Driscoll will certainly have plenty of experience to offer the Swans. Having started his career with Reading's Academy, he built up his reputation to the extent that he was head-hunted by Chelsea just before the Jose Mourinho era.

"It's funny how things work out," explained Driscoll, who is currently working hard to eliminate Garry Monk's long-standing back problem and the rehab programmes of Alan Tate and Ferrie Bodde.

"I worked with Brendan in the Academy structure at Reading and then found myself reunited with him at Stamford Bridge."

Driscoll carried out a dual sports science and physiotherapy role with the Chelsea Academy, where the likes of Scott Sinclair was coming through the ranks.

Then just before Mourinho left, he was promoted to first team physio before becoming head of fitness under new boss Avram Grant.

With the managerial door at Chelsea revolving at pace, Driscoll reverted to first team physio under

Luiz Felipe Scolari and then back to head fitness coach when he was replaced by first Guus Hiddink and then Carlo Ancelotti. But his 10-year association with the Blues came to an end when Andre Villas-

Boas arrived in the summer and he replaced the old guard with his own men.

"Obviously it was disappointing to leave Chelsea after a decade, but that's football for you. When a new manager comes in, he has his own ideas and often his own men who he has been working with over the years."

"On the positive side, the amount of experience I gained over those 10 years working with great managers like Mourinho, Grant, Scolari, Hiddink and Ancelotti was priceless. They were all special in their own way and had their own traits which made them successful."

"I'm proud of the fact that I played my part in Chelsea's most successful era." But Chelsea's loss was Swansea's gain and Brendan moved quickly to secure the services of the 36-year-old once he had worked his notice.

"I mentioned all those great managers earlier that have some fantastic traits. Well Brendan has all those traits himself and some unique ones of his own that the others don't have."

"I could see how special he was all those years ago at Reading when he started out coaching the under-13s. He has fantastic training methodology that translates perfectly to game situations and a lot of Swansea's success comes down to this."

"I could see from day one in training here how comfortable the players were with his methods in their application and motivation. The players are happy with the way they train and that shows in the way they play every weekend."



1912 foundation

THE 1912 Foundation is an exclusive members club with a limited membership of 1,912 people.

Launched in 2007, the aim is to give fans a closer link to Swansea City, while at the same time raising valuable income to support the development of our youth system and training facilities.

For just £2.25 per week you will receive numerous unique benefits and a membership card bearing your exclusive draw numbers.

As well as some unique monthly prizes and a weekly £25 draw, the 1912 Foundation has also introduced a new and exciting incentive that could leave members up to £5,000 better off.

In true Lottery style, there's now a Rollover Jackpot that works in addition to an annual £10,000 jackpot.

Every member is allocated a set of lucky jackpot numbers which are automatically entered into the weekly jackpot rollover draw for £250.

Every week the jackpot isn't won, we will rollover the £250 to the following week, which can lead up to a maximum jackpot of £5,000.

For further details and to sign up, check out the official website or email 1912foundation@swansea-cityfc.co.uk

weekly £25 draw winners

Week 37

Linda Jones from Penmaen, Clive Thomas from USA, Francis Greene from Swansea, Kevin Edwards from Aberdare

Week 38

Justin Gunter from Swansea, Christopher Chapman from Gorseinon, Alison James from Killay, Steve Hunt from Cwmrhydyceirw

Week 39

Robert Reed from Sketty, Louise Hardrick from Llansamlet, Christopher Thomas from Gorseinon, Richard Morgan from Landore.

For the full list of weekly winners over the summer, check out the official website www.swanseacity.net

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Those are some of the reasons why The Moorlands in Newton is such a success. This award-winning development is an attractive, sought after location close to Mumbles, the beaches of Caswell and Langland and within the catchment area of Bishopston Comprehensive.

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business partnership directory listing...

As the Swans continue to grow on and off the field, the club's relationship with local businesses has continued to grow alongside it. To build on that growing relationship, the club has set up a Swans Business Partnership that offers local companies the chance to promote themselves in the matchday programme and official website. Members can also upgrade to use our exclusive Business Club Lounge at the Liberty Stadium on matchdays. We would like to thank the following business for their support. And remember... please support those businesses that support the Swans.

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kerrythomas4@sky.com
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howell.williams@btinternet.com
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enquires@wrking.co.uk
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01792 882343
david.whiskered@ntlworld.com
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jimmyloveridge@btconnect.com
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www.anchem.co.uk
aigmor Limited - 01792-892299
markeakins@hotmail.co.uk
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www.code4sports.co.uk
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www.ostc.com
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rescue@jkrecovery.com
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manchester united

saturday, november 19, 2011, ko 5:30pm

BARCLAYS
PREMIER LEAGUE

IT WAS THE game that all Swans fans looked for first when the Premier League fixtures came out back in June.

A quick glance down the list and you would have come across the current Premier League champions, a mouth-watering prospect for the fans and another example to show just how far this club has come.

United will once again be looking to retain their domestic crown, while also working out how to stop the European dominance of Barcelona, after the Catalan side have twice beaten Sir Alex Ferguson's men in the Champions League final in the last three seasons.

However, they may well be facing their toughest time yet as their city rivals look to overtake United following last weekend's remarkable Manchester derby at Old Trafford.

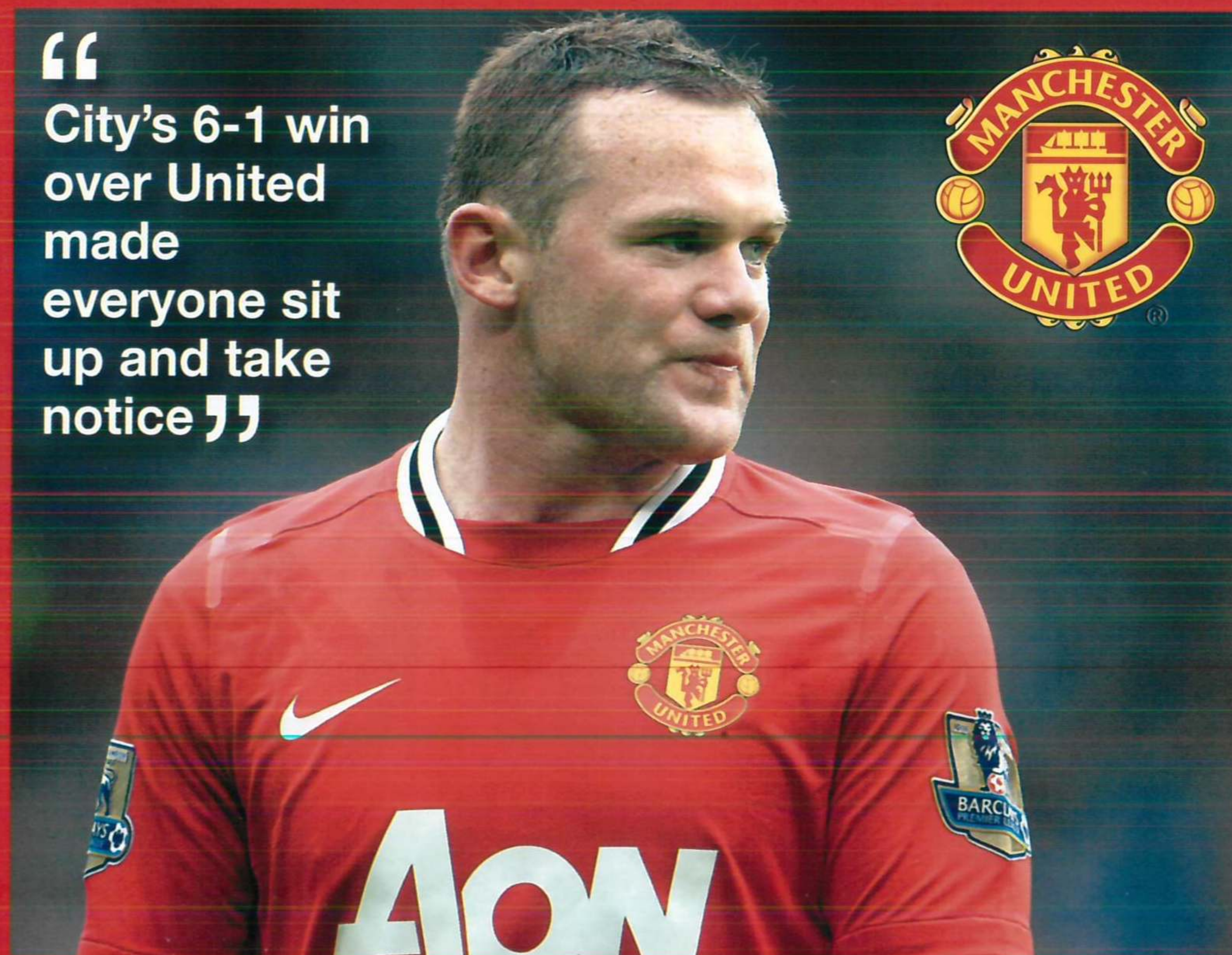
City's 6-1 win over United made everyone sit up and take notice of Roberto Mancini's team and

possibly for the first time since he took over they are now considered genuine title contenders. Last season, United won a record-breaking 19th league title to overtake arch rivals Liverpool but, in truth, it has been a period of dominance over the last two decades that has set the red half of Manchester apart from the rest.

They have won the Premier League a record 11 times since its inception in 1992, as well as lifting four FA Cups, three League Cups and two Champions League trophies in the same period. The last time United visited South Wales for a league game was back in 1982 when the Swans ran out 2-0 winners at the Vetch, courtesy of goals from Alan Curtis and Robbie James on a memorable afternoon.

Ticket information for this game will be available nearer the time via www.swansea-city.net

“
City's 6-1 win over United made everyone sit up and take notice”



jazz signs new deal...

SWANS DEFENDER Jazz Richards has signed a new 18-month contract with the club.

The 20-year-old put pen to paper this week after his previous deal was due to run out at the end of the current campaign.

But his new deal will take him through to the end of the 2012/2013 season, and Jazz was delighted to get everything sorted out.

“I'm delighted to have signed a new contract,” he said. “I've really enjoyed being part of the squad in the last few seasons and I feel I am developing all the time.”

The youngster made his senior Swans debut in August 2009 after coming on as a substitute against Middlesbrough at the Liberty, and recently made his Premier League bow in the defeat to Norwich at Carrow Road.

“It was always my dream to play for my hometown club, so you can imagine what playing for the club in the Premier League means,” said Jazz. “It was only a brief appearance against Norwich, but it was an amazing experience despite the result.”

It is also at international level that Jazz has been flourishing, after being named Wales Under-21 captain by manager Brian Flynn.

But it is with the Swans that he really wants to excel as he looks to earn a place in the first-team on a regular basis and improve under the tutelage of Brendan Rodgers.

“I feel I am very much part of the manager's plans here,” he said. “He is always keen to give youngsters a chance, and there is no better place for me to learn my trade.”

“The manager has been excellent with me. Even when we sit in the team meetings, the way he speaks is so motivational. You want to run through brick walls for him.”





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match officials

Referee: M. Clattenburg
Asst. Refs: S. Beck
S. Child
4th Official: L. Probert

swansea

Manager: **Brendan Rodgers**



	11	SUB	GLS
1 Michel Vorm	☐	☐	☐
2 Ashley Williams	☐	☐	☐
3 Neil Taylor	☐	☐	☐
4 Steven Caulker	☐	☐	☐
5 Alan Tate	☐	☐	☐
6 Ferrie Bodde	☐	☐	☐
7 Leon Britton	☐	☐	☐
8 Andrea Orlandi	☐	☐	☐
9 Craig Beattie	☐	☐	☐
10 Danny Graham	☐	☐	☐
11 Scott Sinclair	☐	☐	☐
12 Nathan Dyer	☐	☐	☐
13 David Cornell	☐	☐	☐
14 Stephen Dobbie	☐	☐	☐
15 Wayne Routledge	☐	☐	☐
16 Garry Monk	☐	☐	☐
17 David Cotterill	☐	☐	☐
18 Leroy Lita	☐	☐	☐
19 Luke Moore	☐	☐	☐
20 Fede Bessone	☐	☐	☐
21 Jose Moreira	☐	☐	☐
22 Angel Rangel	☐	☐	☐
24 Joe Allen	☐	☐	☐
25 Gerhard Tremmel	☐	☐	☐
26 Kemy Agustien	☐	☐	☐
27 Mark Gower	☐	☐	☐
28 Tom Butler	☐	☐	☐
29 Jazz Richards	☐	☐	☐
30 Scott Donnelly	☐	☐	☐
31 Lee Lucas	☐	☐	☐
33 Ben Davies	☐	☐	☐
34 Joe Walsh	☐	☐	☐
35 Daniel Alfei	☐	☐	☐
36 Casey Thomas	☐	☐	☐
37 Jordan Smith	☐	☐	☐
38 Gwion Edwards	☐	☐	☐
39 Kurtis March	☐	☐	☐
44 Evangelos Moras	☐	☐	☐

bolton

Manager: **Owen Coyle**



	11	SUB	GLS
1 Adam Bogdan	☐	☐	☐
2 Gretar Steinsson	☐	☐	☐
3 Marcos Alonso	☐	☐	☐
4 Paul Robinson	☐	☐	☐
5 Gary Cahill	☐	☐	☐
6 Fabrice Muamba	☐	☐	☐
7 Chris Eagles	☐	☐	☐
8 Stuart Holden	☐	☐	☐
9 Tuncay Sanli	☐	☐	☐
10 Martin Petrov	☐	☐	☐
11 Ricardo Gardner	☐	☐	☐
12 Zat Knight	☐	☐	☐
14 Kevin Davies	☐	☐	☐
15 Tyrone Mears	☐	☐	☐
16 Mark Davies	☐	☐	☐
17 Ivan Klasnic	☐	☐	☐
18 Sam Ricketts	☐	☐	☐
19 Nigel Reo-Coker	☐	☐	☐
20 Robbie Blake	☐	☐	☐
21 Darren Pratley	☐	☐	☐
22 Jussi Jaaskelainen	☐	☐	☐
23 Sean Davis	☐	☐	☐
24 David Ngog	☐	☐	☐
25 Dedryck Boyata	☐	☐	☐
26 Rob Lainton	☐	☐	☐
27 Chung-Yong Lee	☐	☐	☐
28 Gael Kakuta	☐	☐	☐
31 David Wheater	☐	☐	☐
37 Joshua Vela	☐	☐	☐



this
weekend's
premier
league
fixtures

Saturday, 29 October 2011

Everton v Man Utd, 12pm
Chelsea v Arsenal, 12:45pm
Man City v Wolves, 3pm
Norwich v Blackburn, 3pm
Sunderland v Aston Villa, 3pm
Swansea v Bolton, 3pm
Wigan v Fulham, 3pm
West Brom v Liverpool, 5:30pm

Sunday, 30 October 2011

Tottenham v QPR, 4pm

Monday, 31 October 2011

Stoke v Newcastle, 8pm



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